

UNCLASSIFIED

AD NUMBER	
AD392261	
CLASSIFICATION CHANGES	
TO:	unclassified
FROM:	confidential
LIMITATION CHANGES	
TO:	Approved for public release, distribution unlimited
FROM:	Distribution authorized to U.S. Gov't. agencies and their contractors; Administrative/Operational Use; 30 APR 1968. Other requests shall be referred to Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development [Army], Washington, DC.
AUTHORITY	
30 Apr 1980 DoDD 5200.10; OAG D/A ltr 30 Apr 1980	

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

SECURITY

MARKING

The classified or limited status of this report applies to each page, unless otherwise marked.

Separate page printouts MUST be marked accordingly.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE LAWS, TITLE 18, U.S.C., SECTIONS 793 AND 794. THE TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW.

NOTICE: When government or other drawings, specifications or other data are used for any purpose other than in connection with a definitely related government procurement operation, the U. S. Government thereby incurs no responsibility, nor any obligation whatsoever; and the fact that the Government may have formulated, furnished, or in any way supplied the said drawings, specifications, or other data is not to be regarded by implication or otherwise as in any manner licensing the holder or any other person or corporation, or conveying any rights or permission to manufacture, use or sell any patented invention that may in any way be related thereto.

CONFIDENTIAL



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

IN REPLY REFER TO

AGAM-P (M) (5 Aug 68) FOR OT RD 682263

21 August 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 4th
Battalion (AW)(SP), 60th Artillery, Period Ending 30 April
1968 (U)

SEE DISTRIBUTION

"This document contains information affecting the National
Defense of the United States within the meaning of the
Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Sec. 793 and 794.
Its transmission or the revelation of its contents in any
manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law."

1. Subject report is forwarded for review and evaluation in accordance with paragraph 5b, AR 525-15. Evaluations and corrective actions should be reported to ACSFOR OT RD, Operational Reports Branch, within 90 days of receipt of covering letter.
2. Information contained in this report is provided to insure that the Army realizes current benefits from lessons learned during recent operations.
3. To insure that the information provided through the Lessons Learned Program is readily available on a continuous basis, a cumulative Lessons Learned Index containing alphabetical listings of items appearing in the reports is compiled and distributed periodically. Recipients of the attached report are encouraged to recommend items from it for inclusion in the Index by completing and returning the self-addressed form provided at the end of this report.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

Kenneth G. Wickham

KENNETH G. WICKHAM
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

1 Incl
as

DISTRIBUTION:

Commanding Generals

US Continental Army Command

US Army Combat Developments Command

Commandants

US Army Command and General Staff College

US Army Artillery and Missile School

US Army Ordnance School

US Army Signal School

US Army Southeastern Signal School

SEP 9 1968

Regraded unclassified when separated
from classified inclosure.

CONFIDENTIAL

2

DISTRIBUTION:

Copies furnished:

Office, Chief of Staff, US Army
Deputy Chiefs of Staff
Chief of Engineers
Chief of Research and Development
Assistant Chiefs of Staff
The Surgeon General
OSD(SA), Assistant for Southeast Asia Forces
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Defense Documentation Center
Director, Weapons Systems Evaluation Group
Commanding Generals
 US Army Materiel Command
 US Army Weapons Command
Commanding Officers
 US Army Limited War Laboratory
 US Army Logistics, Doctrine Systems & Readiness Agency
 4th Battalion, 60th Artillery

CONFIDENTIAL

3

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 4TH BATTALION, 60TH ARTILLERY
APO 96238

AVGK-AF-S3

SUBJECT: Operational Report of 4th Battalion (AW)(SP) 60th Artillery,
Battery E (MG), 41st Artillery and Battery B (SLT), 29th Artillery
For Period Ending 30 April 1968, RCS CSFOR (R1).

SEE DISTRIBUTION

1. SECTION I (C) Significant Organization or Unit Activities.

a. General

(1) The 4th Battalion (AW)(SP) 60th Artillery with attached Battery E (MG), 41st Artillery, remained assigned to I Field Force Vietnam, attached to I Field Force Vietnam Artillery and further attached, less operational control, to 41st Artillery Group at the beginning of the reporting period. Battery B (SLT) 29th Artillery, remained attached, less operational control to 4th Battalion (AW)(SP), 60th Artillery. Effective 17 February 1968, 4th Battalion (AW)(SP), 60th Artillery, with attached Battery E (MG), 41st Artillery, was detached from 41st Artillery Group and fully attached to I Field Force Vietnam Artillery.¹

(2) The battalion, with attachments, operated at widely separated locations in support of maneuver and artillery units of the United States and Free World Military Assistance Forces throughout the II Corps Tactical Zone and the I Corps Tactical Zone.²

(3) Headquarters and Headquarters Battery was attached to I Field Force Vietnam Artillery and located at Camp Townes, Qui Nhon area. Battery A was assigned to 4th Battalion (AW)(SP) 60th Artillery. Operational control of the 1st AW Platoon was exercised by 3d Battalion, 506th Infantry, in the Phan Thiet area. Operational control of the 2d AW Platoon was exercised by 6th Battalion, 32d Artillery, in the Tuy Hoa/Ninh Hoa area. Battery B was assigned to the 4th Battalion (AW)(SP), 60th Artillery. The 1st AW Platoon was located in the Qui Nhon area with operational control of 110 Section exercised by Qui Nhon Sub-Area Command; operational control of 120 and 140 Section exercised by 4th Battalion (AW)(SP), 60th Artillery; operational control of the 130 Section was exercised by 41st Artillery Group.

1. See Incl 1
2. See Incl 2

(1)

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

FOR OT R3
682263

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

AVGK-AF-S3

30 April 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1968

4

The 2nd AW Platoon was located in the Pleiku/Dak To area with operational control of 210, 220 and 230 Sections exercised by 6th Battalion, 29th Artillery, 4th Division Artillery. Operational control of 240 Section was exercised by 5th Battalion, 22d Artillery, 52d Artillery Group in Polei Dreng. Battery C was assigned to 4th Battalion (AW)(SP), 60th Artillery. The 110 and 130 Sections of 1st AW Platoon remained temporarily attached to the 1st Cavalry Division (Air Mobile) and were located in Quang Tri, I Corps Tactical Zone. Operational control of 120 and 140 Sections and 2nd AW Platoon was exercised by the 4th Battalion (AW)(SP), 60th Artillery. These two sections and the platoon were deployed from the vicinity of Bong Son south to Go Boi. Battery D was assigned to 4th Battalion (AW)(SP), 60th Artillery. Operational control of the 1st AW Platoon was exercised by 4th Battalion, 42d Artillery, 4th Division Artillery, in the area southeast of Pleiku. The 2d AW Platoon was located south of Pleiku with operational control of 210 Section exercised by 3rd Battalion, 6th Artillery; operational control of 220 and 230 Sections was exercised by 6th Battalion, 14th Artillery; operational control of 240 Section was exercised by 4th Division Artillery. The 240 Section was located at Kontum.

(4) Battery E (MG), 41st Artillery was attached to 4th Battalion (AW)(SP), 60th Artillery. The six machine gun sections were further attached to Batteries of the 4th Battalion (AW)(SP), 60th Artillery, with operational control exercised as follows: Section A attached to Battery A with operational control of the 1st and 2d Squads exercised by Tuy Hoa Sub-Area Command; operational control of the 3d and 4th Squads exercised by 173rd Airborne Brigade in the Tuy Hoa area. Section B was attached to Battery C and further temporarily attached to the 1st Cavalry Division (Air Mobile), in Quang Tri, I Corps Tactical Zone. Section C was attached to Battery C, with operational control exercised by the 4th Battalion (AW)(SP), 60th Artillery, and deployed in the Bong Son area. Section D was attached to Battery D with operational control of 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Squads exercised by 4th Battalion (AW)(SP), 60th Artillery, and operational control of the 1st Squad exercised by 5th Battalion, 22d Artillery, in the Pleiku area. Section E was attached to Battery A, with operational control exercised by 3rd Battalion, 506th Infantry, in the Phan Thiet area. Section F was attached to Battery B with operational control of 1st, 3rd and 4th Squads exercised by 4th Battalion (AW)(SP), 60th Artillery, in the An Khe area and operational control of the 2d Squad exercised by 4th Battalion, 12th Infantry, in the Dak To area.

(5) Battery B (SLF), 29th Artillery, remained attached to I Field Force Vietnam, further attached to I Field Force Vietnam Artillery and further attached to 4th Battalion (AW)(SP), 60th Artillery. The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Searchlight Platoons were attached to Batteries B, C, and A respectively, with operational control exercised as follows: 1st Platoon to 4th Division Artillery located in Dak To/ Pleiku area; 2nd Platoon, minus four Searchlights to 4th Battalion (AW)(SP), 60th Artillery in the Bong Son/Go Boi area. Four searchlights were temporarily attached to 1st Cavalry Division (Air Mobile) located in the Quang Tri area, I Corps Tactical Zone; 3rd Platoon

(2)

CONFIDENTIAL

5
CONFIDENTIAL

AVGK-AF-S3

30 April 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1968

to various United States and Republic of Korea forces located on the coastal plains from the junction of Highways 1 and 6B (Crossroads) south to Phan Thiet.

(6) In addition to the TO&E authorization of 64 M42A1 (Dusters) and 24 M-55 (Quads), the Battalion employed four additional Dusters and three additional Quads by Battery E (MG), 41st Artillery personnel. These Dusters were employed for defensive support by the Qui Nhon Sub-Area Command at critical installations within the immediate area surrounding Qui Nhon. One Duster supported Battery C, 2d Battalion, 17th Artillery, in conjunction with one Quad at the fire support base near Ky Son Mountain. One Quad supported 6th Battalion, 84th Artillery. The remaining Quad alternated its defensive missions between Camp Townes and Lane Army Heliport.

(7) Elements of the Battalion participated in the following major operations: MACARTHUR, PATRICK, WALKER, BOLLING, MANG HO 11 in the II Corps Tactical Zone and PEGASUS in the I Corps Tactical Zone.

b. Intelligence

(1) The wide dispersal of the Battalion's elements and the TO&E under which it was organized precluded effective and efficient centralized intelligence efforts. Close coordination was maintained with all supported units to insure receipt of correct intelligence on the local area of operations and the timely evaluation of information contributing to the intelligence collecting effort.

(2) The intelligence gathering function of the Battalion S-2 was concentrated in the Qui Nhon area. Intelligence information was gathered by daily liaison visits to the ROK Capitol Infantry Division, Qui Nhon Sub-Area Command, Special Forces Detachment, B-22 MACV Sub-Sector Advisory Team 27, Naval Intelligence Officer, 22d Infantry Division (ARVN), 504th Military Police Battalion, 8th Transportation, Lane Army Air Field, 51st and 54th Military Intelligence Detachments. Information gathered from these sources was forwarded to higher headquarters in the Battalion's daily intelligence summary. Intelligence regarding the II Corps Tactical Zone was received in daily INTSUMS and weekly PERINTREPS, from Headquarters, I Field Force Vietnam.

(3) A complete Enemy Order of Battle was maintained and kept current by the S2 officer. The order of Battle file contains names, locations and strength of every known NVA/VC unit down to company size in the II Corps Tactical Zone. Each enemy unit's AKA (also known as) designation and a roster of officer personnel is also maintained.

(4) The Combined Intelligence Center Vietnam (CICV) was requested to support the Battalion Intelligence effort by providing pattern analysis studies of enemy units and tactical scale studies of certain geographical areas in the II Corps Tactical Zone. The pattern analysis study contains

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

AVGK-AF-S3

30 April 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1968

the history of enemy units. The tactical scale studies contain information concerning geology, soil analysis, weather and vegetation classification of all geographical areas in Vietnam. These studies, when received, will provide invaluable information for consideration when employing the weapon systems and searchlights.

(5) Batteries received intelligence for their particular area of employment through briefings and reports prepared by their supported units. Intelligence in the form of Spot Reports was forwarded by the batteries to the Battalion S2 for evaluation and inclusion in the Battalion INTSUM as appropriate.

c. Operations and Training Activities.

(1) Operations

(a) All operational elements of the 4th Battalion (AW)(SP), 60th Artillery and attached Battery E (MG), 41st Artillery, and Battery B (SLT), 29th Artillery, were engaged in tactical operations during each of the 90 days of this reporting period. The fire units' primary employment continued to be perimeter defense with supplemental missions consisting of convoy escort; route, strongpoint, work-party and bridge security; and search destroy fire support and mine sweep team security with maneuver elements. Supporting fires were provided through interdiction, counterfire, reconnaissance by fire, confirmed target engagement, and on-call fire. Searchlights continued to be employed in support of critical installations and position areas, performing missions in the visible and infrared modes on a programmed and on-call basis. The type and number of supporting fires and searchlight missions performed during this reporting period are as follows:

DUSTER (M42A1)

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>AMMUNITION EXPENDED (40MM)</u>
Interdiction	3221	122,743
Counterfire	108	2,512
Reconnaissance by fire	1262	13, 106
Confirmed	50	2,512
Other (Training & On-Call)	<u>104</u>	6,654
TOTAL MISSION	5785	

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

7 AVGK-AF-S3

30 April 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1968

QUAD (M-55)

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>AMMUNITION EXPENDED (.50 CAL)</u>
Interdiction	762	399,666
Counterfire	47	14,100
Reconnaissance by Fire	232	170,373
Confirmed	9	108,579
Other (Training & On-Call)	34	12,789
Total Missions:	1084	

SEARCHLIGHT (AN/MSS-3)

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
Visible	
H & I	17,489
On-Call	2,169
Infrared	
H & I	10,380
On-Call	244
Total Missions:	30,282

(b) As a follow-up of activities reported last quarter, Automatic Weapons and Searchlight employment was again examined to determine if the employment derived maximum utilization of the capabilities of the weapon systems and searchlights. With the exception of a few instances, the Automatic Weapon and Searchlight employment was sound. The problems encountered in the employment of these elements was due to lack of knowledge on the part of supported unit commanders. After Battery or Battalion personnel explained the capabilities and limitations of the weapon systems and searchlights, errors in employment were corrected. It was then determined that a third informational letter on AW and Searchlight employment considerations be distributed to supporting units. The intent of the letter is to continually improve AW and Searchlight support. This Headquarters also established a policy for liaison to be conducted with supported unit commanders by battery commanders or platoon leaders upon initial employment with a new unit. It is envisioned that this personal contact and the informational letter will enhance the utilization of Automatic Weapons and Searchlights.

3. See Incl 3

(5)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

AVGK-AF-53

30 April 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1968

(c) Automatic Weapons employment in the II Corps Tactical Zone demonstrated a need for flexibility. During this quarter, artillery units were continually moving which required AW support for convoys and fire base defense. Also, maneuver elements conducted various operations of short duration which required Automatic Weapons for search and destroy activities and blocking fire support. In several instances, the Battalion was unable to render support as requested because operational control of Dusters and Quads was exercised by other units. In order to achieve flexibility in Automatic Weapons support, this Headquarters forwarded an Automatic Weapon/Searchlight Organization for Combat to CG, IFFORCEV-ARTY which recommended that operational control of certain elements be exercised by 4th Battalion (AW) (SP), 60th Artillery.⁴ This recommendation is pending at this time. It is envisioned that AW and Searchlight elements will continue to perform present mission assignments in respective areas of operation. With operational control exercised by this battalion, flexibility for contingencies will be gained throughout the II Corps tactical zone.

(d) A chronological sequence of events and actions occurring during this period is attached at Inclosure 5.

(e) Significant events

30 January to 28 March 1968. Six Quads, under operational control of 4th Battalion (AW)(SP), 60th Artillery performed convoy escort for 8th Transportation Group and other unit convoys on highway 19 between An Khe and Pleiku. Three Quads, (E15, E17, E19) based at Camp Enari, escorted convoys east to An Khe each morning and west to Pleiku each afternoon. Three Quads, (E16, E23, E26), based at Camp Radcliff, escorted convoys west to Pleiku each morning and east to An Khe each afternoon. The Quads also provided camp security at their respective base camps each night. During the 59 days on escort duty, seven enemy ambushes were effectively engaged by quick action and devastating fire power provided by the Quad crews.⁵ The average ammunition expenditure per Quad per ambush was 1431 rounds. Five Quad crew members were wounded in action. Quads were credited with eleven enemy killed in action, by body count. On 28 March 1968, the Quads, performing convoy escort highway 19, were given the mission to provide route security on Highway 19, by recommendation of the traffic coordinator. The recommendation was made to counter enemy staging ambushes on convoys in areas east and east of Mang Giang pass. The three Quads, based at Camp Radcliff, were assigned sectors of responsibility between An Khe and Mang Giang pass. The three Quads, based at Camp Enari, were assigned responsibilities between Pleiku and Mang Giang pass. Each Quad formed a security team with a tank or APC (armored personnel carrier) and was also assigned as a reaction force in their respective sectors.

25 March to 3 April 1968. In cooperation with 1st Battalion, 50th Infantry (mechanized), on 25 March, Battery C, mounted a Quad (E11) on a M113 Armored Personnel Carrier. This experimental concept was devised to enable the Quad to accompany the mechanized infantry on search and destroy operations within the Cochise area of operations. Initial tests of the "Leprechaun," as it

- 4. See Incl 4
- 5. See Incl 6

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

9. AVGK-AF-S3

30 April 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1968

was nicknamed, demonstrated that the M113 provided an adequate platform for the Quad and that the maneuverability of the M113 was not degraded. Advantages gained were mobility for the Quad and greater basic load ammunition capacity, (30,000 rounds VS 10,000 rounds). The Quad, on the M113, could lay down fire to within 50 meters of the front and sides of the carrier. An additional man in the Quad crew was required to pass ammunition from inside the APC through the top hatch door to the cannoners. On 31 March 1968 the "Leprechaun" supported a search and destroy mission conducted by 1st Battalion, 50th Infantry (Mech). Contact was made with an enemy force of unknown size at 1315 hours in the vic of LZ Uplift. E11, (Leprechaun), engaged the enemy with maximum firepower with undetermined results. Two cannoners were wounded by gun shots in the ankles. It was then determined to add a two foot high armor plate on each side of the APC to provide protection for the cannoners. On 2 April 1968, at 1708 hours, the "Leprechaun" was accompanying Company A, 1st Battalion, 50th Infantry (Mech) in column, returning to LZ Uplift. The Leprechaun was the fifth vehicle in the column. A mine was detonated beneath the M113 which completely disabled the M113 and Quad. Three men, a Company A driver, and two Battery E, 41st Artillery, Quad cannoners, were killed as a result of the mine detonation. The mine consisted of a shape charge weighing 80-100 pounds which was detonated by a command device. The M113 and the Quad were not recoverable and were destroyed the next day by EOD personnel.

5 April 1968. Quads E 7, E 8, E 10, and searchlights 43 and 44 were lifted to LZ Snapper, 7 kilometers south of the Khe Sanh Marine Base. The mission of the Quads and searchlights was perimeter defense of LZ Snapper, which was utilized by the 1st Cavalry Division (Air Mobile) during Operation Fogarus. Quads fired H & I type missions.

28 April 1968. Quads E7 and E8 and searchlight 46 were airlifted to LZ Cecille, in the A Shau valley, to provide perimeter defense of fire support bases utilized by 2d Battalion, 15th Artillery.

4 April 1968. Commanding General, IFFORCEV-Artillery announced the concept for employing the 6th Battalion, 84th Artillery (155 towed), in the II Corps Tactical Zone as a "Swing Battalion". The mission of the Battalion was to move throughout the II Corps tactical zone supporting maneuver elements and reinforcing Artillery, when and where required. The 4th Battalion (AW)(SP), 60th Artillery, was directed to support the Swing Battalion with automatic weapons and searchlights during its move and operations. The concept of the automatic weapon and searchlight support was recommended to IFFORCEV-Artillery.⁶ The Battalion's first operation, having been in country 3 weeks, was to move from the An Khe area to the vicinity of Phu My and establish a fire support base in the Cochiase AO. The 4th Battalion (AW)(SP), 60th Artillery, was directed to provide 2 Duster sections, 2 Quads and 2 searchlights to support the Battalion. Duster sections B120 and B140, Quads E27 and E14, searchlights S47 and S51 were drawn-down from mission assignments in the Cochiase AO and placed in support of the Swing Battalion by CG, 4th Battalion (AW)(SP), 60th Artillery.

6. See Incl 7

(7)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

AVGK-AF-S3

30 April 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1968

10

20 April 1968. 6th Battalion, 84th Artillery was directed to move to a position 5 kilometers west and 10 kilometers north of Qui Nhon, establish a fire support base and reinforce fires of the Capitol Division Artillery (ROK) in support of operation Maeng Ho 11. The Dusters, Quads and Searchlights supporting the 6th Battalion, 84th Artillery were to continue support of the Battalion. The 4th Battalion (AW)(SP), 60th Artillery, was directed to support the ROK maneuver elements with six searchlights. Five Searchlights were drawn-down from mission assignments in the Cochise AO and one searchlight was drawn-down from its mission assignment in the Tuy Hoa area and assigned the support mission.⁷

(f) Operational control

The wide dispersion of the Battalion's organic and attached elements throughout the II Corps Tactical Zone and in the I Corps Tactical Zone presented problems in the area of command and control, troop welfare in regard to pay and personal problems, supply of repair parts and communications. The distance between most Northern and most Southern fire units is 248 air miles and the distance between the Eastern and Western fire units is 100 air miles in the II Corps Zone. The distance from Base Camp to the elements in Quang Tri is 210 air miles. Several of the elements are located at positions which are not accessible by road. The aircraft support provided (one helicopter, two days per week) was inadequate to accomplish coordination visits with supported units, timely payment of troops, and transportation of repair parts. The Battalion continued to utilize the AN/GRC-19 radio pending receipt of the AN/GRC-106 radio. Communication with subordinate units was marginally adequate due to the distance involved, the inherent maintenance problems, and limited capabilities of the AN/GRC-19.

(2) Training Activities.

(a) The training requirements for the Battalion's personnel are conducted at squad and section level by the batteries because of the wide dispersion of fire units and Searchlights.⁸ Individual training records are maintained at the Battery Headquarters.

(b) During this reporting period, various training programs for special areas of interest were conducted. The Battalion did not conduct basic unit or advanced unit training because of mission commitments.

(c) Replacement training for 85 personnel, received through the infusion program, was conducted as the personnel arrived at the Battalion's Base Camp. The formal training was conducted under the auspices of the Battalion S-3 Officer prior to making replacement assignments to the batteries. A synopsis of the Replacement Training Program is at inclosure 10.

(d) Six men attended the Unit Armorer's Training Course conducted by Technical Representatives of the 1st Logistical Command. The

(8)

7. See Incl 8

8. See Incl 9

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

AVGK-AF-S3

30 April 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1968

special interest area of this training course was care, cleaning and maintenance of the M16A1 Rifle.

(e) Six officers (1st and 2nd Lieutenants) attended a five-day Forward Observer Training Course conducted by 2nd Battalion, 17th Artillery as directed by CG, IFFORCEV-ARTY. This is a continuous training program for all Lieutenants newly assigned to IFFORCEV-ARTY units. A training program is also conducted and required for all newly assigned Lieutenants, for the Fire Direction Officer. This Headquarters has requested relief from the FDO training requirement due to the nature of this unit's mission. The FO training course is considered beneficial to officers assigned to this organization.

(f) One officer attended the Civil Operation and Revolutionary Development Support (CORDS) Advisory Orientation course sponsored by MACV. The scope of the Course was not applicable to units of battalion size or smaller. Most periods of instruction were based on Division, Field Force and Corps Tactical Zone levels of operation.

(g) A six day training program was conducted by the Battalion S-4 for purposes of training battery personnel in PLI procedures. A synopsis of the training program is at inclosure 11.

d. Logistics.

(1) Support: No change occurred in the status of logistical support for the battalion during the reporting period. Logistical support of all classes of supply was maintained for organic and attached units located at Camp Townes. Quarters and Classes I, III, and V supplies, as a minimum, are the responsibility of major subordinate commands in whose area the elements of this Battalion are deployed. TO&E and TA 50-901 items are provided to all battalion personnel by the S-4. Supplies not available through the major subordinate commands are also supplied by this battalion's S-4, in order to insure that a combat ready posture is maintained by all elements.

(a) Support was rendered by the agencies listed at inclosure 12.

(b) Support rendered in Classes I, III, and V supply categories was considered adequate during this reporting period.

(c) Support rendered in Class II and IV supply categories was considered inadequate during this reporting period. The 56th Field Depot, Qui Nhon, provided non-expendable and expendable supply support. The expendable supply support was unsatisfactory. For the period, 1 February 1968 through 30 April 1968, 224 requisitions were submitted and only 59 were filled. The support provided by the Maintenance Support Company, 5th Maintenance Battalion, for repair parts was unsatisfactory. For the period, 1 February through 30 April 1968, 1500 requisitions were submitted and only 277 were filled. "Red

(9)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

AVGK-AF-S3

30 April 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1968

Ball" requisitions were marginally satisfactory. Out of 167 of the "Red Ball" requisitions, 101 were filled.

(d) During this reporting period, a study was made to determine whether the PLL should continue to be maintained at Battalion level or be relocated at each of the Automatic Weapons Batteries. Battery E (MG), 41st Artillery was not considered for establishing a PLL because its elements are attached to the Automatic Weapons Batteries. Battery B (SL), 29th Artillery was considered for establishment of a PLL. As a result of the study, it was determined that the PLL would be relocated at Battery level.

(2) Maintenance.

(a) Maintenance concepts in RVN differ significantly from normal. Experience during the last quarter indicated that a shortage of repair parts exists and support units do not react in a minimum amount of time to effect repairs. Consequently, battalion and battery maintenance sections often performed services and repairs allocated to depot maintenance.

→ (b) Selective or controlled cannibalization was frequently utilized for replacement of armament and automotive parts on the M42A1, ie: top and bottom covers, right and left extractors, hatch catches, magnetos, and mufflers. This was due, in part, to the apparent shortage of these repair parts and incorrect data previously recorded in the PLL. The controlled cannibalization has caused, and will continue to cause, difficulty in turning in combat losses to classification and salvage points.

→ (c) Coordination was effected, through the Director of Maintenance, Qui Nhon, with the 86th Maintenance Battalion to rebuild M42A1 engines. Twenty-one engines for rebuilding are on hand in the 526th salvage yard.

(d) Maintenance activities during this reporting period included the following: technical inspection of all weapons, weapons carriers, and wheeled vehicles by Battalion and Battery maintenance personnel; replacement of 26 M42A1 engines and 5 M42A1 transmissions due to unservicability.

(3) Supply. Major items of equipment turned in, received, and due out during the period, 1 Feb 1968 to 30 April 1968, are listed at inclosure 14.

(4) Ammunition. The following number of rounds were fired by 68 Dusters (M42A1) and 27 Quads (M-55) employed by this Battalion during this reporting period:

9. See Incl 13

(10)

CONFIDENTIAL

13
CONFIDENTIAL

AVGK-AF-S3

30 April 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1968

TYPE AMMUNITION

TOTAL ROUNDS

40MM

192,064

Caliber .50

705,517

(5) Base Camp Development.

(a) This headquarters was informed at the beginning of this reporting period that the Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, Headquarters Sections of Battery E, 41st Artillery and Battery B, 29th Artillery, would move to Camp Radcliff, An Khe. On or about 20 February 1968, this Headquarters was informed to be ready to move to Camp Radcliff and be operational at that location within 48 hours after receipt of the movement order. A reconnaissance was conducted and an area at Camp Radcliff was located. A forward element was dispatched to the new position to prepare the existing buildings for occupancy and coordinate engineer assistance for wiring buildings, reconstruction and road work.

(b) As a result of the pending move, no major improvements were initiated during the first two months of the reporting period. Only maintenance of existing facilities was scheduled and accomplished to include painting of several buildings, construction of a sump system for the Mess Hall, remodeling of offices, and construction of several fighting bunkers in the Headquarters Battery sector of responsibility.

(c) As of 1 April 1968, it appeared that the move of the base camp would be pending for an indefinite period of time. Therefore, the following improvements were accomplished during the month of April:

1. Establishment of a water supply point within the confines of Camp Townes, at one of the three existing wells. In coordination with area engineers, (Pacific Architectural and Engineering Company), a pump has been installed and the capacity of the well is being evaluated at this time.

2. Construction of a small arms range (150' long and 30' wide) to be utilized for zero and familiarization firing.

3. Remodeling of the Post Exchange building which increased the usable floor space by 900 square feet; remodeling of another building of 400 square feet to be utilized as a PX annex.

4. To improve the compound's defensive posture, five fighting bunkers were rebuilt and a supplementary barbed wire fence barrier was erected between guard towers 3 and 6. Using a bulldozer, depressions were filled, hedgerows were removed and fields of fire cleared outside of the perimeter to 50 meters beyond the perimeter fence. Additional real estate was acquired on the north side of the compound for purpose of extending the perimeter in this area.

(11)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

AVGK-AF-S3

30 April 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1968

e. Civil Action. During the past quarter, this Battalion renewed the Friendship Program which had diminished considerably during the TET and post-TET periods of January and February. Although enemy activity greatly hindered the Civic Action projects in the Tuy Phuoc District, the majority of the people and GVN officials remained highly receptive to our aid. The MACV Advisory Team, in this district, has been enthusiastic about the Civic Action program, and was very cooperative in providing ideas.

(1) The Battalion Medical Section treated 106 general medical patients at Camp Townes, and conducted MEDCAPS at the Tuy Phuoc Sub-sector Headquarters. Emergency service for 38 accident victims was provided at the Battalion Dispensary. The Battalion Surgeon presently visits the Medical Clinic in Tuy Phuoc on a regular schedule.

(2) The TET and post-TET offensive conducted by VC/NVA units throughout Tuy Phuoc Sub Sector resulted in the destruction of many dwellings. The displaced and homeless families had a great and immediate need for materials and tools to reconstruct the homes destroyed by the enemy. Hence, the most significant Civic Action project conducted by this organization during the quarter was furnishing building materials and tools to needy families in the Sub-Sector. Contributions consisted of: 2760 bd-ft lumber, 21 bags of fertilizer, 1 saw, and 1 "T" square. Battalion personnel spent a total of 52 man days in Civic Action projects.

(3) During this quarter, commodities and sundry items were distributed among RF/PF families and to the MACV Tuy Phuoc Sub Sector Advisory Team for further distribution. These items consisted of used children's clothing, candy and chewing gum. During the month of April, the Battalion Chaplain visited the Qui Nhon Support Command Elementary School, a new project now underway. The purpose of the visit was to establish liaison with the school principle to determine how the Battalion could assist them. Plans and projects to aid the elementary school are pending. In addition, battalion personnel voluntarily contributed \$320.47 to the TET Aggression Relief Program.

f. Personnel

(1) The 4th Battalion (AW)(SP), 60th Artillery, Battery E (MG), 41st Artillery and Battery B (SLT), 29th Artillery authorized and assigned strengths as of 30 April were as follows:

(12)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

15

AVGK-AF-S3

30 April 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1968

	<u>AUTHORIZED</u>				<u>ASSIGNED</u>			
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>FM</u>	<u>AGG</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>FM</u>	<u>AGG</u>
4th Bn, 60th Arty	37	3	658	698	34	3	725	762
Btry E, 41st Arty	2	0	115	117	1	0	120	121
Btry B, 29th Arty	7	0	144	151	4	0	140	144
TOTALS	46	3	917	966	39	3	985	1027

(2) Gains and losses:

	<u>GAINS</u>				<u>LOSSES</u>			
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>FM</u>	<u>AGG</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>FM</u>	<u>AGG</u>
4th Bn, 60th Arty	32	3	201	236	37	3	249	289
Btry E, 41st Arty	2	0	20	22	2	0	36	38
Btry B, 29th Arty	7	0	34	41	3	0	42	45
TOTALS	41	3	255	299	42	3	327	372

(3) This battalion was overstrength 69 enlisted men as of the last day of the reporting period. However, these individuals are replacements for 102 enlisted men that rotate during the month of May 1968.

(4) As of 30 April, this battalion was short 1 Major, 3 Captains, and 3 Lieutenants.

(5) During the period 1 February 1968 through 30 April 1968, the battalion Personnel Section out-processed 360 men returning to CONUS and in-processed 275 replacements.

(a) Of the 22 officers received during the reporting period, 9 or 40.9% were not trained in automatic weapons and had no prior experience in automatic weapons.

(b) Of the 154 enlisted men received as replacements for MOS 13F during the reporting period, 19 or 12% were not trained and had no prior experience in automatic weapons.

(6) A shortage of 30 NCO's in grade E6 and 46 NCO's in grade E5

(13)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

AVGK-AF-S3

30 April 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1968

16

qualified by training or experience in automatic weapons, presently exists in this battalion. During the recent turnover of personnel, qualified NCO's rotated and lower grade personnel were assigned as replacements. Also, 55 men with a primary MOS other than 13F are filling supervisory positions. The following actions have been initiated by the Battalion to counteract these deficiencies:

1. Conduct a training program including formal and OJT type training.
2. Submission of a list of unauthorized MOS, now assigned to the Battalion, as an effort to exchange these personnel for those qualified in MOS 13F.
3. Requisition of appropriate MOS.
4. Reclassification of those personnel readily grasping MOS 13F concepts as a result of training.

(7) The following awards and decorations were presented during the reporting period:

<u>AWARD</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
Legion of Merit	1
Silver Star	1
Bronze Star w/V	2
Bronze Star	24
Air Medal	1
Army Commendation Medal w/V	1
Army Commendation Medal	26
Purple Heart	36
IFFV Certificate of Achievement	6
TOTAL	<u>98</u>

(14)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

17 AVGK-AF-S3

30 April 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1968

(8) The following is a listing of judicial and non-judicial actions taken during the reporting period:

<u>ACTION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
ARTICLE 15	25
SCM	6
SPCM	1
GCM	0
TOTAL	<u>32</u>

(9) Casualties during the reporting period are as follows:

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
Killed in Action	3
Died of Battle Wounds	0
Wounded in Action	36
Missing in Action	0
Non-Battle	0

(10) Rest and Recuperation: Quotas were not all utilized because of personnel rotation during this reporting period.

(a) Out of Country:

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>FEB</u>	<u>MAR</u>	<u>APR</u>
HAWAII	3	7	12
HONG KONG	1	3	6
MANILA	0	0	1
TOKYO	0	0	6
BANGKOK	5	6	9
SINGAPORE	1	0	3

(15)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

AVGK-AF-S3

30 April 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1968

18

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>FEB</u>	<u>MAR</u>	<u>APR</u>
TAIPEI	0	3	9
AUSTRALIA	5	7	8
TOTALS	15	26	55

(b) In-Country Rest and Recuperation (Vung-Tau)

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>FEB</u>	<u>MAR</u>	<u>APR</u>
VUNG-TAU	2	2	4

(11) The morale of the Battalion's and attached batteries' personnel continued to be excellent.

(12) Religious Activities:

(a) A Protestant worship service was conducted weekly at the Camp Townes Memorial Chapel by the Battalion Chaplain. The average attendance at these services was thirty. Protestant services were also conducted by the Chaplain at various element positions throughout the II Corps Tactical Zone and in the I Corps Tactical Zone. The average attendance at these services was twelve.

(b) Two Memorial Services were conducted for the following named personnel who were killed as a result of hostile action while in the service of their country:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>DIED</u>
WOODLAND, Thomas S.	US51668358	Btry E, 41st Arty	2 Apr 68
SANCHEZ, Thomas S.	US54720626	Btry E, 41st Arty	2 Apr 68
NICHOLAISEN, James E.	RA15668358	Btry E, 41st Arty	15 Apr 68

(c) The 4th Battalion (AW)(SP) 60th Artillery Memorial Plaque, honoring those men who have lost their lives in the service of their country, was dedicated at services conducted on 10 March 1968.

(d) Activities added to the Battalion's religious program included a Chapel choir and a weekly Bible study period.

(e) Coordination with 41st Artillery Group Chaplain was made for the conducting of Catholic Mass at Camp Townes each week.

(16)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

19

AVGK-AF-S3

30 April 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1968

(13) Medical:

(a) During the reporting period, the Battalion Surgeon made the following visits to the field and administered the inoculations as shown below:

<u>DATES OF VISITS</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER INOCULATIONS GIVEN</u>
9 Mar 68	LST Beach, Phu Tai, Go Roi	32
15 Mar 68	Phu Hiep, Dong Tre	43
18 Mar 68	Bong Song, LZ Uplift, LZ English, LZ Laramie, LZ Geronimo, LZ Lo Boi	44
22 Mar 68	Camp Enari, LZ Oasis, Rock Quarry Artillery Hill	44 7
25 Mar 68	Camp Enari, Pl Lei Kleng	24
27-28 Mar 68	Phan Thiet, LZ Judy, LZ Betty, LZ Remblett	38
1 Apr 68	LZ Laramie, LZ Pony LZ Salem	34
11 Apr 68	Camp Radcliff	10
19 Apr 68	Camp Enari	38
23 Apr 68	Camp Radcliff	40

(b) Base Camp Operations Included:

	<u>FEB*</u>	<u>MAR</u>	<u>APR</u>	<u>AGGREGATE TOTAL</u>
Out Patients Visits	116	343	393	852
Quartered Patients	2	10	10	20
Hospital Admissions	5	7	20	32
Immunizations	131	368	373	872
Inspections	18	12	14	44

*The Aid Station was without a Surgeon from 8 February to 5 March 1968.

(17)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

AVGK-AF-S3

30 April 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1968

(c) Other Patients Seen:

	<u>FEB</u>	<u>MAR</u>	<u>APR</u>
Vietnamese	13	34	63
Korean	2		2

(d) Health and Disease Disorders:

1. Five men out of an average strength of 1113 contracted malaria during the reporting period.

2. Fifteen man days were lost as a result of foot disorders caused by improper foot and boot care. Twelve men suffered hearing degradation as a result of not wearing ear plugs while working around generators, serving on crew served weapons, and firing small arms. The latter was the cause of the majority of the cases.

CONFIDENTIAL

21
2. (C) SECTION 2. LESSONS LEARNED: COMMANDER'S OBSERVATIONS, EVALUATION, AND RECOMMENDATIONS. (U)

a. PERSONNEL. None

b. OPERATIONS.

(1) COUNTERFIRE BY AUTOMATIC WEAPONS

(a) Observation. Automatic weapons performing perimeter defense duties should have the capability of immediate counterfire in event of mortar/rocket attacks on the position.

(b) Evaluation. Artillery units supported by automatic weapons adhere to the SOP that automatic weapons will not return fire unless clearance is obtained from the battery FDC. Automatic weapons have the capability to bring fire on mortar/rocket positions with pin-point accuracy. During the time spent obtaining clearance to fire in event of mortar/rocket attack, the position is subjected to damage to equipment and injury to personnel by incoming mortar/rocket rounds. Counterfire by automatic weapons usually stop mortar/rocket attacks.

(c) Recommendation. That artillery and other units supported by automatic weapons enable immediate counterfire by automatic weapons when under mortar/rocket attack without having to obtain clearance.

(2) IMMEDIATE REACTION DRILLS BY AUTOMATIC WEAPONS CREWS

(a) Observation. Automatic weapons crews should establish and practice immediate reaction drills to bring fire on the enemy in event of ambush or other hostile action as an automatic response.

(b) Evaluation. A recent incident demonstrated the fact that automatic weapons crews trained for immediate reaction to hostile actions precluded disaster when one of two Dusters on convoy escort hit a mine. In spite of dense smoke, dust and apparent confusion resulting from the mining incident, both Dusters were able to counterfire the hostile small arms after the mine detonation and break a well planned ambush.

(c) Recommendation. That immediate reaction drills be emphasized in training by automatic weapons crews in Advanced Individual Training and Basic Unit Training.

(3) INITIAL LIAISON WITH SUPPORTED UNITS

(a) Observation. Automatic weapons personnel must conduct a thorough liaison visit with commanders of supported units immediately upon occupation of the position.

(b) Evaluation. Recent experience has demonstrated that

222

CONFIDENTIAL

all supported units are not aware of the capabilities and limitations of automatic weapons. This has resulted in improper employment and failure to render logistical support. Consequently, firepower capabilities are not utilized to the maximum extent and automatic weapons are unable to participate in sustained operations due to lack of resupply.

(c) Recommendations. That automatic weapons battery commanders/platoon leaders/section leaders conduct initial liaison visits with supported unit commanders to fully explain the capabilities and limitations of automatic weapons, recommend employment for best possible defense posture and inform supported commanders of the support which must be rendered to automatic weapons elements. This headquarters prepared an automatic weapon/searchlight employment information letter and distributed it to supported commanders during a previous reporting period. This letter has been revised and will be distributed again. A copy of this letter is attached as Inclosure 3.

(4) PREPARATION AND USE OF RANGE CARDS

(a) Observation. It is imperative that automatic weapons crews prepare range cards and annotate them with standard information and information pertaining to no-fire zones.

(b) Evaluation. On several occasions, automatic weapons were not able to identify no-fire zones when required to counterfire suspected or actual enemy mortar/rocket positions. This resulted in time wasted while the squad leaders requested this information from the supported units.

(c) Recommendation. That automatic weapons crews identify no-fire zones, use fire direction equipment associated with Duster or Quad and determine azimuths and elevations of no-fire zones; that this information be annotated on respective range cards; that range card preparation training be conducted in Advance Individual Training and Basic Unit Training. This headquarters has prepared and distributed range card samples to all automatic weapons units for guidance. The sample range card is attached as Inclosure 15.

(5) MINING INCIDENTS

(a) Observation. Numerous mining incidents in the Kontum-Polci Klang area demonstrate that the Viet Cong are crafty adversaries. Mines have been placed on road shoulders, road centers and intersections. Plastic mine devices are also utilized.

(b) Evaluation. Due to use of plastic mine devices, engineer mine sweeps are not insurance that a road is free of mines. The enemy's placement of mines does not always follow a set pattern. Plastic type mines and irregular placement causes difficulty in discovering mines.

CONFIDENTIAL

23

(c) Recommendation. That personnel refrain from using unswept roads. That personnel using swept roads are continually alert for any digging or tampering with road surfaces or shoulders, unusual muckings, rock patterns, or arrangements of peculiar vegetation near the road indicating possible markings for mines as a warning for enemy forces.

(6) TRAILERS FOR DUSTERS

(a) Observation. Dusters do not afford sufficient space for carrying personal gear or protective materials from a closed base position to a new position.

(b) Evaluation. Duster crews supporting artillery units, which continually move from one base position to another during extended periods, are hampered by the lack of available space for carrying equipment and materials required for personal welfare and protection. A trailer authorized for each Duster would alleviate this problem.

(c) Recommendation. That each Duster be authorized a 1½ Ton Ammunition Trailer, M332 for purpose of carrying personal welfare and protective material. The trailer, M332, affords additional carrying space, low silhouette, and trackability when towed by a Duster. This headquarters has published and distributed a loading plan indicating what and where equipment is to be carried on the Duster. This plan will support the Duster crew for a period of four days. The trailer, required for longer periods, has been requisitioned. This plan is attached at Inclosure 16.

(7) INCREASED MOBILITY FOR QUADS

(a) Observation. Present 2½ Ton truck prime mover for the Quad limits the mobility of Quads to established road networks and hard surfaced areas.

(b) Evaluation. In the present configuration, Quads mounted on 2½ Ton Trucks cannot effectively support maneuver elements on search and destroy missions or range with self propelled artillery units when operating off established road networks and hard surfaced areas. Mounting the Quad on a full tracked, self propelled vehicle will enable the Quad to range with maneuver and self propelled elements.

(c) Recommendations. That a full tracked, self propelled vehicle be evaluated as the prime mover for the Quad. This headquarters has requested temporary loan of three Cargo Carriers, Self Propelled, M548 for test and evaluation. This request has been approved by I Field Force Vietnam Artillery and I Field Force Vietnam and forwarded to USAFV.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

24

c. TRAINING

(1) TRAINING CONDUCTED AT UNIT LEVEL

(a) Observation. Because of the wide dispersion of battery elements, only on-the-job training can be effectively conducted at the battery level.

(b) Evaluation. Mandatory training required for all personnel include 9 subjects annually, 2 subjects monthly and 1 subject weekly for a total of 85 hours per month. (See inclosure 9) Batteries are not able to effectively conduct the formal training required because of mission commitments and wide dispersion of elements. Battalion level training could be conducted for the annual subjects during replacement in-processing and training. The monthly and weekly subjects could be conducted by using handouts. Records of training could be maintained by the respective batteries.

(c) Recommendation. That organizations with similar employment conduct training as outlined in the above evaluation. This headquarters is presently revising its training program along this concept.

d. INTELLIGENCE: None

e. LOGISTICS

(1) SUPPORT OF AUTOMATIC WEAPON/SEARCHLIGHT ELEMENTS

(a) Observation. As currently employed, automatic weapons/searchlight elements are not capable of supporting themselves nor do parent units have the capability to provide required logistical support.

(b) Evaluation. In some instances, required supplies of Class I, III, and V items were not received by automatic weapon/searchlight elements because the supported unit did not assume this responsibility and the parent unit was not capable of effecting resupply. Parent units of automatic weapon/searchlight elements do not have the continuous supply trains that are available to the supported units. Supported units should be required to render support and provide Class I, III and V supplies to automatic weapon/searchlight elements.

(c) Recommendations. That units supported by automatic weapon/searchlight elements be required to supply Class I, III, and V items to these elements. This headquarters is resolving this problem by liaison visits with supported units.

(2) LOCATION OF PLL FUNCTIONS

(a) Observation. PLL functions located at battalion

(22) CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

25
level do not provide adequate response, time nor sufficient stockage of certain critical items.

(b) Evaluation. Excessive equipment down time was experienced due to transportation of required repair parts from the consolidated PLL at battalion level to the using unit because of the wide dispersinn of elements throughout the II and I Corps Tactical Zones. Certain critical items were not on hand when required because of authorized stockage for consolidated PLL.

(c) Recommendation. That PLLs be maintained at the battery level. Corrective action taken in view of the recommendation was training of battery personnel as PLL clerks and transferring PLL to the battery level. The estimated date for 50% fill of battery PLLs is 1 June 1968.

(3) EXCESSIVE DEADLINE TIME

(a) Observation. Equipment was doadlined for excessive time due to insufficient resupply of repair parts.

(b) Evaluation.

1. The delay experienced in returning deadlined equipment to operational status was due to inadequate supply of repair parts caused by the following:

a. Incorrect demand data recorded in PLL because controlled and uncontrolled cannibalization was the major source of repair parts. This resulted in PLL having a maximum zero balance of 35%.

b. Lack of sense of urgency in obtaining requisitioned parts by supply and support agencies. During this reporting period, only 175 items were received for 1500 requisitions.

2. Corrective action taken by this organization included:

a. A technical inspection of all organic equipment of the battalion and attached units to identify shortages.

b. Establishment of a system for controlled cannibalization and recording of correct demand data.

c. Coordination of an M42A1 engine rebuild project with U.S. Army Support Command, Qui Nhon.

d. Preparation and submission of a list of repair parts, considered combat essential, based on experience. This list is attached as Inclosure 17.

CONFIDENTIAL

(23)

CONFIDENTIAL

e. Establishment of a continuous monitoring system and parts requisition procedures to include review of status of each requisition on a monthly basis. 26

f. Coordination with support agencies to provide a secure container for parts received by the agency and awaiting pick up by the battalion.

g. Continuous personal contact by Battalion S-4 personnel with support agencies.

(c) Recommendation. That continuous emphasis be placed on obtaining repair parts supplies at all command levels.

f. ORGANIZATION

(1) ATTACHED PERSONNEL

(a) Observation. Personnel of Battery E (MG), 41st Artillery, and Battery B (SLT), 29th Artillery, attached to automatic weapons batteries add an additional supervisory and administrative burden on the AW battery commander.

(b) Evaluation. An AW assistant platoon leader, given the supervisory and administrative responsibility for attached machine gun and searchlight personnel, will alleviate this problem within the AW battery.

(c) Recommendation. That an AW assistant platoon leader be assigned responsibilities for supervisory control and administration of personal, medical and financial items of attached machine gun and searchlight personnel; that machine gun and searchlight personnel be detached from automatic weapons batteries administrative control and support be exercised by parent units; that operational control of Quads and Searchlights be exercised by AW batteries. Above recommendations will be explored and the concept adopted if feasible in the near future. The MFO&E "G" series is presently under study at higher headquarters which changes the present organization of Duster battery and Quad battery to a Duster/Quad battery which will solve this problem.

g. OTHER

(1) QUALIFIED MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL (TRACK MECHANICS-MOS 63020)

(a) Observation. Track mechanics, MOS 63020, assigned to this organization are qualified to perform maintenance on M-48, M-60, and M113 vehicles. Little of this knowledge is applicable to the M42A1 vehicle.

(b) Evaluation. Because assigned track mechanics have little knowledge applicable to the M42A1 vehicle, four to six weeks is required for an on-the-job training program. The training time required has a detrimental effect on the battalion's maintenance posture.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

27

Corrective action taken included utilization of a maintenance contact team for purpose of performing track maintenance at site of widely dispersed element locations. This concept has reduced excessive equipment down time.

(c) Recommendation. That the feasibility of a school established to train personnel on the M42A1 vehicle be evaluated.

(2) QUALIFIED MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL (TURRET MECHANICS- MOS 45F20)

(a) Observation. Turret mechanics, MOS 45F20, assigned to this battalion are qualified to perform maintenance on the M-55, M108, and M-109 vehicles and not on the M42A1 vehicle.

(b) Evaluation. Because assigned turret mechanics have little knowledge applicable to the M42A1 vehicle, an on-the-job training program for a four to six week period must be conducted to qualify these personnel on the M42A1 vehicle. The training time required has detrimental effect on the battalion's maintenance posture. The turret mechanics assigned were not trained as MOS 45F20 for automatic weapons turret mechanic. This battalion should receive the turret mechanics trained at Fort Bliss.

(c) Recommendation. That a procedure be established to identify turret mechanics trained at Fort Bliss and assign these personnel to automatic weapons battalions.

(3) AN/VRC RADIO CABLE CONNECTION IN M42A1

(a) Observation. On many Dusters within the battalion the co-ax antenna cable connection on the AN/VRC-46 radio has been broken.

(b) Evaluation. Ammunition cans taken from the track commander's side of the storage compartment were pulled out in such a way that the co-ax antenna connection was hit and the connection broken or the cable cut.

(c) Recommendation. That the casing from a I-495 trip flare be used as a shield which will give adequate protection to the connecting point where the co-ax antenna lead meets the radio. This shield can be attached to the radio by the two screws already on the radio.

(4) EXTERNAL PHONE C-2296/VRC

(a) Observation. The external phone, part of inter-communication control set C-2296/VRC, located on the rear deck of the M-42 tends to pull out easily from the control box.

(25)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

28
(b) Evaluation. This external phone is connected directly inside the C-296/VRC and when the phone cord is accidentally pulled out, there is no way to repair it in the field.

(c) Recommendation. That the control set and external phone cord and be modified for connection similar to that on a radio and microphone cord affording a stronger connection; or that a "breakaway" connection be fabricated which would afford a joint on the cord which will break and preclude cord being pulled from the control set.

(5) INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM - M42A1

(a) Observation. Problems have occurred with the internal communications system - M42A1 that require repairs of 3rd & 4th echelon nature.

(b) Evaluation. Repairs of the M42A1 internal communications system cannot be made by battery communication section because of lack of training, schematics of system, and equipment for troubleshooting. The schematics of the system are needed to troubleshoot and determine what repairs are required.

(c) Recommendation. That schematics, repair and maintenance manuals be obtained. This Headquarters forwarded a letter to the USSADGEN requesting these items. As a result of this letter, a civilian representative of electronics command, working out of the office of the Director of Maintenance, Qui Phou, is assisting in this matter.

(6) MALARIA PREVENTION

(a) Observation. Prevention of malaria continues to be a problem and is a matter for training, indoctrination, and command emphasis.

(b) Evaluation. Malaria prevention items such as medicine, mosquito netting, and insect repellent are readily available. Each man is issued a mosquito net, insect repellent and advised to take oral medicines for prevention of malaria. Each individual is required to annotate a roster indicating he has taken malaria prevention oral medicine. A command letter was published by this headquarters outlining malaria prevention measures to be followed by units of this command. Even with these precautions, both vivax and falciparum malaria is being contacted by men of this organization.

(c) Recommendation. That indoctrination periods pertaining to malaria preventative measures be included in all phases of training.

(26)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

29

(7) INFECTIONS OF THE FEET

(a) Observation. Prevention of foot infection continues to be a problem and is a matter of training and indoctrination.

(b) Evaluation. Common foot infections such as infected blisters and abrasions are caused by improper foot hygiene, fit and care of boots.

(c) Recommendation. That indoctrination periods pertaining to prevention of foot infection be included in all phases of training.

(8) USE OF EAR PLUGS

(a) Observation. Prevention of ear damage by use of ear plugs is a matter for continual training indoctrination and command emphasis.

(b) Evaluation. Degradation of hearing is occurring with increased frequency because personnel are not wearing ear plugs when exposed to loud or continuous noise such as 40mm and Caliber .50 firing, generators, helicopters and small arms firing. The most frequent cause of ear damage during the reporting period was small arms firing.

(c) Recommendation. That use of ear plugs when working on crew served weapons, generators, riding in helicopters and firing small arms receive emphasis in all phases of training.

-17 Incl-

-as-

Incl 4, 7, 8, 12, 14 and 17
Withdrawn, HQ, DA

DISTRIBUTION:

2-CINCPAC

ATTN: GPOF-PT

3-USARV

ATTN: AVHGC (DST)

5-CG, IFFORCEV

ATTN: AVFA-AT-D

1-CG FORT BLISS, TEXAS 79916

ATTN: G-5 ENG-DIV

1-CG, UNITED STATES ARMY TNG CENTER

ATTN: 1ST TNG BDE

1-1ST BN, 44TH ARTY

1-5TH BN, 2ND ARTY

1-EA STAFF SECTION 4TH BN 60TH ARTY

1-EA BTRY 4TH BN 60TH ARTY

Paul E. Schultz
PAUL E. SCHULTZ
JAC, Artillery
Commanding

(27)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

31

AVFA-AT-D (30 April 68) 1st Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of 4th Battalion (AW), (SP), 60th Artillery, Battery E (MG), 41st Artillery and Battery B (SLT), 29th Artillery for Period Ending 30 April 1968 (RCS: CSFOR) (R1)

DA, Headquarters, I Field Force Vietnam Artillery, APO 96350 4 JUN 1968

TO: Headquarters, I Field Force Vietnam, APO 96350

1. (C) Reference paragraph b(1)(c), section 2, page 19, Counterfire by Automatic Weapons. Nonconcur. Clearance for field artillery and/or automatic weapons fire should be always obtained unless a target is positively identified as enemy and is jeopardizing the security of US or allied personnel.
2. (C) Reference paragraph b(2)(c), section 2, page 19, Immediate Reaction Drills by Automatic Weapons Crews. Concur.
3. (C) Reference paragraph b(3)(c), section 2, page 20, Initial Liaison with Supported Units. Concur.
4. (C) Reference paragraph b(4)(c), section 2, page 20, Preparation and Use of Range Cards. Concur.
5. (C) Reference paragraph b(5)(c), section 2, page 21, Mining Incidents. Concur.
6. (C) Reference paragraph b(6)(c), section 2, page 21, Trailers for Dusters. Concur.
7. (C) Reference paragraph b(7)(c), section 2, page 21, Increased Mobility for Quads. Concur.
8. (C) Reference paragraph c(1)(c), section 2, page 22, Training Conducted at Unit Level. Nonconcur. In addition to providing lesson plans in the form of handouts for wide distribution, battery officers must either present or closely supervise the presentation of mandatory training.
9. (C) Reference paragraph e(1)(c), section 2, page 22, Support of Automatic Weapon/Searchlight Elements. Concur.
10. (C) Reference paragraph e(2)(c), section 2, page 23, Location of PLL Functions. Concur.
11. (C) Reference paragraph e(3)(c), section 2, page 24, Excessive Deadline Time. Concur.
12. (C) Reference paragraph f(1)(c), section 2, page 24, Attached Personnel. Concur.
13. (C) Reference paragraph g(1)(c), section 2, page 25, Qualified Maintenance Personnel (Track Mechanics - MOS 63C20). Concur.

28

CONFIDENTIAL

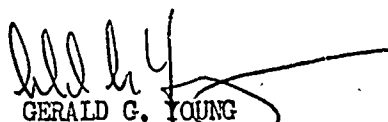
CONFIDENTIAL

AVFA-AT-D

SUBJECT: Operational Report of 4th Battalion (AW), (SP), 60th Artillery, Battery E (MG), 41st Artillery and Battery B (SIT), 29th Artillery for Period Ending 30 April 1968 (RCS: CSFOR) (R1) 32

14. (C) Reference paragraph g(2)(c), section 2, page 25, Qualified Maintenance Personnel (Turret Mechanics - MOS 45F20). Concur.
15. (C) Reference paragraph g(3)(c), section 2, page 25, AN/VRC Radio Cable Connection in M42A1. Concur.
16. (C) Reference paragraph g(4)(c), section 2, page 26, External Phone C-2296/VRC. Concur.
17. (C) Reference paragraph g(5)(c), section 2, page 26, Internal Communications System M42A1. Concur.
18. (C) Reference paragraph g(6)(c), section 2, page 26, Malaria Prevention. Concur.
19. (C) Reference paragraph g(7)(c), section 2, page 26, Infections of the Feet. Concur.
20. (C) Reference paragraph g(8)(c), section 2, page 26, Use of Ear Plugs. Concur.

FOR THE COMMANDER:


GERALD C. YOUNG
Major, Artillery
Adjutant

CONFIDENTIAL

33

AVFA-GG-OT (30 Apr 68) 2d Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of 4th Battalion (AM) (SP) 60th Artillery,
Battery E (MG), 41st Artillery and Battery B (SLF), 29th
Artillery for Period Ending 30 April 1968, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)(U)

DA, Headquarters, I Field Force Vietnam, APO 96350 14 JUN 1968

TO: Commanding General, United States Army Vietnam,
ATTN: AVMGC-DST, APO 96375

(C) This headquarters has evaluated subject report and forwarding
indorsements and makes the following recommendations and comments:

a. Reference paragraph 1d(1)(d) Section 1 page 10, Prescribed
Load List: Establishing the PLL at battery level was one of the
topics discussed at the Logistics Seminar held at HQ IFFORCEV on 6
June 1968. The Director of Supply Qui Nhon Supply Depot is aware
of the problem and some improvements will be noted by 30 June 1968.

b. Reference paragraph 1d(2)(b) Section 1 page 10, Turn-in
of Combat Loss Vehicles. No problems should be encountered if AR
735-3 and USARV Reg 735-3 are adhered to in turning in combat loss
vehicles.

c. Reference paragraph 1d(2)(c) Section 1 page 10, M42A1 Engine
Rebuild: There is a program in CONUS for the M42A1 engine rebuild.
Unserviceable engines should be turned-in through logistical channels
to preclude future shortages.

d. Reference paragraph 2e(3) Section 2 page 23, Excessive Dead-
line Time: Concur with the recommendation, however this unit's cur-
rent deadline rate is only about 7% compared to the MACV standard
of 15%

FOR THE COMMANDER:

John R. Cooke
ILT AGC

for ROBERT C. GABBARD
ILT AGC

ASST ADJUTANT GENERAL

Copy furnished:
IFFORCEV Arty

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

AVHGC-DST (30 Apr 68) 3d Inc (U) CPT Arnold/ms/LBN 4485 34
SUBJECT: Operational Report of 4th Battalion (AM)(SP) 60th Artillery,
Battery E (MG), 41st Artillery and Battery B (SLT), 29th
Artillery For Period Ending 30 April 1968, RCS CSFOR (R1).

HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96375 6 JUL 1968

TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-DT,
APO 96558

1. This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 30 April 1968 from Headquarters, 4th Battalion, 60th Artillery.

2. Comments follow:

a. Reference item concerning increased mobility for quads, page 21, paragraph b(7): Concur that the 2½ ton Truck Mounted Quad .50 Machine Guns are inadequate for deployment in cross-country missions; however, M548 Carrier assets are currently not available to support this requirement. Assets to fill known TOE shortages are expected to arrive in-country over the next ninety days.

b. Reference item concerning qualified maintenance personnel (Turret Mechanics - MOS 45F20), page 24, paragraph g(2)(c): Concur. The present procedure is to screen the DA Form 20 of each replacement with FMOS 45F20 to determine the service school attended. This procedure insures that personnel who attend course number 642-45F20-A (Fort Bliss, Texas) are assigned to major subordinate commands that have an automatic weapons battalion.

c. Reference item concerning external phone C-2296/VRC, page 25, paragraph g(4). A USAECOM equipment representative in the Qui Nhon area will visit the unit, evaluate the problem and submit a Technical Assistance Report to USAECOM. The representative will, if possible, make an on the spot correction as an interim measure. Unit should submit an Equipment Improvement Report (EIR) in accordance with paragraph 3-7.4, TM 38-750.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

C. S. Nakatsukasa
C. S. NAKATSUKASA
Captain, AGC
Assistant Adjutant General

Copies furnished:
HQ, 4th Bn, 60th Arty
HQ, I FFORCEV

31

CONFIDENTIAL

35

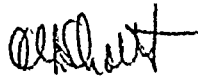
GPOP-DT (30 Apr 68) 4th Ind (U)
SUBJECT: Operational Report of PQ, 4th Bn, 60th Arty Btry E (MG) for
Period Ending 30 April 1968, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 18 JUL 1968

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the
Army, Washington, D. C. 20310

This headquarters has evaluated subject report and forwarding indorse-
ments and concurs in the report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:



C.I. SHORTT
CPT, AGC
Asst AG

CONFIDENTIAL

37

FTVB FFVC
DE FTVA NR 01 16/0057Z
RR 160052Z FEB 68
FM CG IFFORCEV ARTY NHA RVN
TO CO 41ST ARTY GP PHC RVN
CO 4TH BN 60TH ARTY QNH RVN
INFO: CO 52ND ARTY GP PKU RVN
BT

CONFIDENTAL 02-0246 FROM AVEA-MT-D

SUBJ: ARTILLERY ORGANIZATION FOR COMBAT (U)

(C) EFFECTIVE 170001H FEB 68, THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENTS ARE MADE:

4/60 ARTY, WITH E/41 ARTY AND B/29 ARTY ATTACHED, IS DETACHED
FROM 41ST ARTY GP AND ATTACHED FULLY TO I FFORCEV ARTILLERY.

HNB, 8/26 ARTY IS DETACHED FROM 41ST ARTY GP AND ATTACHED
FULLY TO I FFORCEV ARTILLERY.

GP4

BT

33

CONFIDENTIAL

Inlosure 1

CONFIDENTIAL

AVGK-AF-S3

30 April 1968

39 SUBJECT: Operational Report Lessons Learned for Quarterly Period Ending
30 April 1968 (RCS*CSFOR) (R1)

KEY TO DISPOSITION MAP

4th Bn, (4W) (SP), 60th Arty
with
Battery E, (MG), 41st Arty
and
Battery B, (SLT), 29th Arty
attached

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <u>QUANG TRE</u>
4-DUSTERS
1-QUAD
1-SLT | 9. <u>QUI NHON</u>
HQ 4/60 ARTY
HHB 4/60 ARTY
B/29
6-DUSTERS
1-QUAD
1-S:T |
| 2. <u>CAMP EVANS</u>
3-QUADS
3-SLTS | 10. <u>BINH KHE</u>
2-DUSTERS |
| 3. <u>LZ ENGLISH</u>
2-DUSTERS
2-QUADS
1-SLT | 11. <u>AN KHE</u>
3-QUADS. |
| 4. <u>BONG SON</u>
2-DUSTERS
2-SLTS | 12. <u>DONG TRE</u>
3-DUSTERS (1 COMBAT LOSS)
1-SLT |
| 5. <u>LZ ORANGE</u>
2-DUSTERS | 13. <u>TUY HOA</u>
2-DUSTERS
4-QUADS
3-SLTS |
| 6. <u>LZ PONY</u>
2-DUSTERS | 14. <u>PHU HIEP</u>
HQ 4/4/60
4-SLTS |
| 7. <u>LZ UPLIFT</u>
HQ C/4/60
HQ 1/B/4/60
4-DUSTERS
3-QUADS | 15. <u>WHITE HORSE</u>
1-SLT |
| 8. <u>PHU CAT</u>
2-DUSTERS
1-QUAD
1-SLT | 16. <u>PHAN RANG</u>
2-SLTS |
| 9. <u>QUI NHON</u>
HQ 4/60 Arty
HHB 4/60 Arty | 17. <u>PHAN THIET</u>
8-DUSTERS
4-QUADS
2-SLTS |

Inlosure 2

CONFIDENTIAL

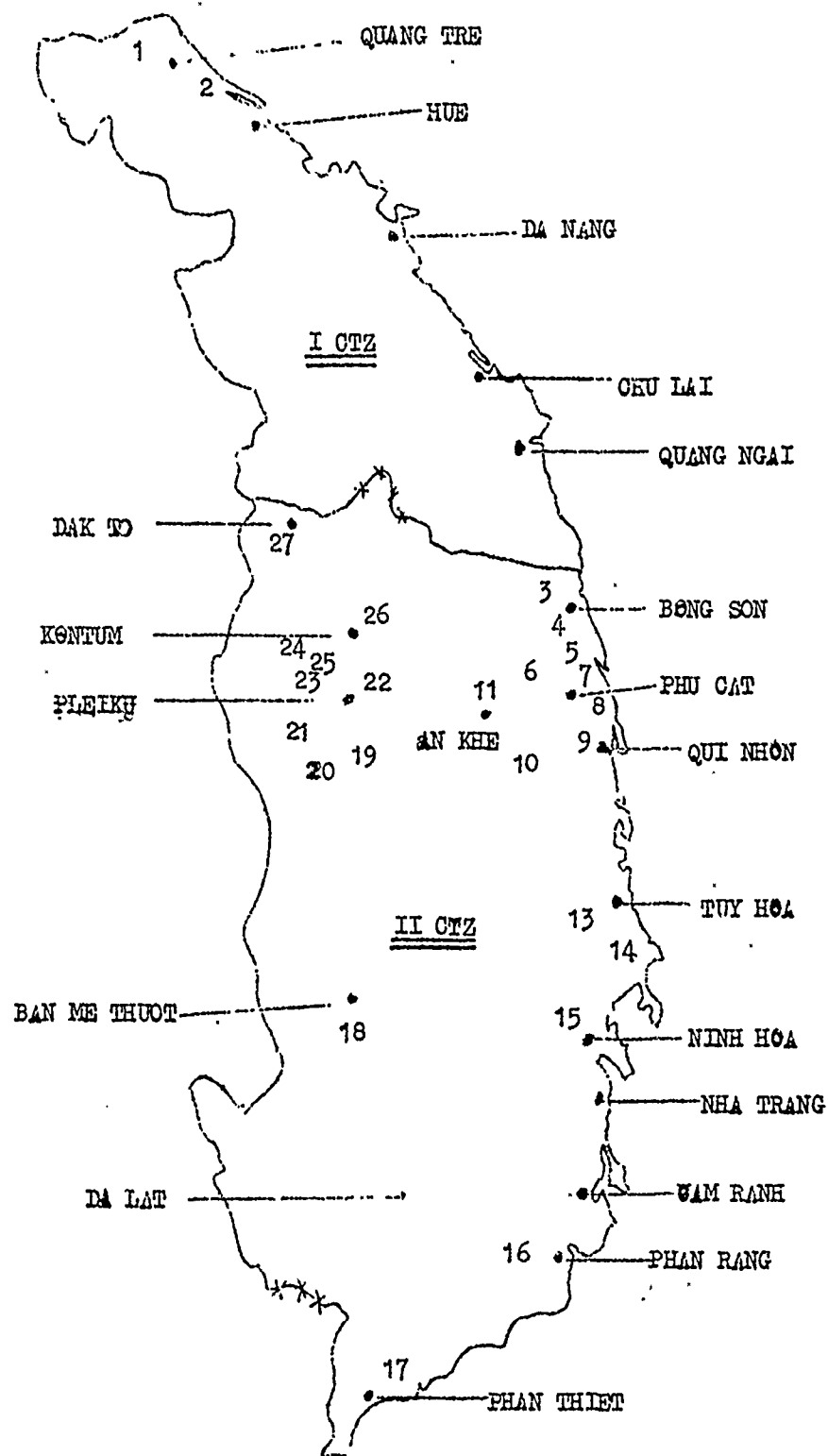
34

CONFIDENTIAL

- 40
- | | |
|--|---|
| 18. <u>BAN ME THUOT</u>
2-DUSTERS | 23. <u>POLEI KLENG</u>
1-QUAD |
| 19. <u>CAMP ENARI</u>
3-DUSTERS
3-QUADS
4-SLTS | 24. <u>PLEI BLANG YAM</u>
1-SLT |
| 20. <u>OASIS</u>
5-DUSTERS
2-DUSTERS (ROCK QUARRY) | 25. <u>PLE MRONG</u>
1-SLT |
| 21. <u>POLEI DJERANG</u>
2-DUSTER | 26. <u>KONTUM</u>
1-SLT |
| 22. <u>ARTY HILL</u>
HQ B/4/60
1-SLT | 27. <u>DAK TO</u>
4-DUSTER
2-DUSTER (FIRE BASE 13)
1-QUAD
1-SLT |

CONFIDENTIAL

41



36
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

AVGK-AP-S3

30 April 1968

4-2

SUBJECT: Operational Report Lesson Learned for Quarterly Period Ending
30 April 1968 (RCS-CSFOR) (R1)

DISPOSITION AS OF: 30 APRIL 1968

UNIT	COORDINATE	OPCON
LC 1/60	BF968252	IFFV ARTY
PC 1/60	BF968252	IFFV ARTY
LC	CF10035	QNSAC
LC	CR10025	93D MP BN
PC	CR10026	6/84
PC	BF100428	H/4/60
2/4/60 (-)	CC 1482	6/32
1/4/60	AN800070	3/506
A111	AN796668	3/506
A112	AN796668	3/506
A121	AN796668	3/506
A122	AN796668	3/506
A131	AN773091	3/506
A132	AN773091	3/506
A141	AN851161	3/506
A142	AN851161	3/506
2/4/60	BQ905703	6/32
A211	BR964760	6/32
A212	BR964760	6/32
A221	BQ901704	6/32
A222	BQ901704	6/32
A231	BQ901704	6/32
A241	CQ118306	6/32
A242	CQ118306	6/32
B/4/60	ZA228515	4TH DIV ARTY
1/B/4/60	BR924749	BTRY C, 4th Bn, 60th Arty
B111	CQ066227	41ST ARTY GP
B112	CQ066227	41ST ARTY GP
B121	BR895662	6/84
B122	BR895662	6/84
B131	BR900400	41ST ARTY GP
B132	BR900400	41ST ARTY GP
B141	BR889015	6/84
B142	BR889015	6/84
2/B/4/60 (-)	ZBO12216	5/29
B211	ZBO12216	5/29
B212	ZBO12216	5/29
B221	ZBO12216	5/29
B222	ZBO12216	5/29
B231	ZBO05217	5/29
B232	ZBO05217	5/29
B241	ZA027931	5/22
B242	ZA027931	5/22

CONFIDENTIAL

43

UNIT	COORDINATE	OPCON
G/4/60	BR925785	4/60
1/G/4/60	YD357508	6/33
G111	YD331495	6/33
G112	YD331495	6/33
G121	BS876013	3/319
G122	BS876013	3/319
C 41	BR873956	3/319
C 42	BR873956	3/319
2/D/4/60	BR873956	4/60
G 41	EF872251	4/60
G 42	BR870428	4/60
C 21	B 799829	4/60
G 22	B 799829	4/60
G 31	B 924749	4/60
G 32	B 924749	4/60
C 41	BR810880	4/60
C 42	BR810880	4/60
G 31	YD331495	6/33
G 32	YD331495	6/33
1/D/4/60	AR792345	4TH DIV ARTY
D111	ZA112279	4TH DIV ARTY
D112	AR792347	4/42
D121	ZA112279	4/42
D122	ZA112279	4/42
D131	ZA059312	4/42
D132	ZA112279	4/42
D141	ZA059312	4/42
D142	ZA112279	4/42
2/D/4/60	AR792345	4TH DIV ARTY
D211	AQ877018	5/22
D212	AQ877018	5/22
D221	YA876456	6/14
D222	YA876456	6/14
D231	AR792347	4TH DIV ARTY
D232	COMBAT LOSS	4TH DIV ARTY
D241	AR775888	6/14
S20	AR799347	4TH DIV ARTY
S21	ZA109273	4/42
S22	ZA759462	4/42
S23	AR795351	4/42
S24	ZB010215	5/29
S25	AR866419	4TH DIV ARTY
S26	ZA059311	3/16
S27	AR789346	4TH DIV ARTY
S28	ZA145901	5/16
S29	ZA111671	B/5/16
S30	ZA229533	52ND GP

38

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

44

UNIT	COORDINATE	OPCON
S40	CR022157	QNSAC
S41	CR047302	1ST ROK
S42	BR00745	26 ROK
S43	YD337508	2/19
S44	YD335315	2/19
S45	YD335315	2/19
S46	YD335315	2/19
S47	BR009954	4/60
S48	BR009954	1ST ROK
S49	BR004362	CAP ROK
S50	BR027750	4/60
S51	BR009957	1ST ROK
S52	BR0070459	26 ROK
S53	CR061722	CAP ROK
S61	BR005704	6/32
S62	BR0091853	EAP ROK
S63	CR0285322	9 ROK
S64	AN796068	3/506
S65	AN796068	3/506
S66	CR0260738	26 ROK
S67	BR0756001	101 ABN
S68	BR0756801	101 ABN
S69	CR0071145	9 ROK
S70	CR0216327	28 ROK
S71	CR0110183	6/32 ARTY
E/41ST ARTY	BR968252	IFFV ARTY
E3	CR0244306	THSAC
E4	CR0244306	THSAC
E5	CR000350	173 ABN INF
E6	CR000350	173 ABN INF
E7	YD535315	2/19
E8	YD535315	2/19
E9	YD337507	2/19
E10	YD535315	2/19
E12	BS876010	4/60
E13	BS876010	4/60
E14	BR870459	4/60
E15	YA936931	2/9
E16	AR793345	4/60
E17	AR793345	4/60
E18	AR793345	4/60
E19	AN796068	3/506
E20	AN796068	3/506
E21	AN796068	3/506
E22	AN796068	3/506
E23	BR476.45	4/60
E24	YB887291	1/8
E25	BR476445	5/29
E26	BR476445	5/29
E27	CR044332	6/84
E28	CR051307	2/17

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 4TH BATTALION, 60TH ARTILLERY
APO San Francisco 96238

45
AVGK-AF-S3

26 April 1968

SUBJECT: Employment of AW and Searchlights in Vietnam

TO: See Distribution

I. GENERAL

1. The 4th Battalion (AW)(SP), 60th Artillery and attached Battery E (MG), 41st Artillery completed one year in the Republic of Vietnam on 12 March 1968. Battery B (SLT), 29th Artillery was attached to the Battalion on 2 January 1968. Lessons Learned through experience during operations are outlined herein to assist in future planning and employment of the Gun, AAA, SP Twin M-42 (Duster), Mount Machine Gun Caliber .50, (M-55) and the Xenon Searchlight AN/MSS-3.

(a) Employment of organic weapons has been characterized by wide dispersion of units. Presently, elements occupy 63 locations from Phan Thiet north to Quang Tri and from Qui Nhon west to Dak To, in support of 45 separate maneuver elements and artillery units. This dispersion of elements naturally causes liaison, support and control problems which are alleviated with the assistance of supported commanders. Recommendations are offered throughout the text of this letter to aid similar type units and supported units in acquiring maximum Automatic Weapon and Searchlight effectiveness.

(b) The Duster Battalion and Quad Battery are being employed in the direct support role; however, crew proficiency of air defense engagement procedures are continually stressed.

(c) Inclosure 1 provides characteristics and capabilities to assist in Automatic Weapons and Searchlights.

(d) Inclosure 2 provides recommended mission assignments for Automatic Weapons and Searchlights.

II. EMPLOYMENT

2. When properly employed in defensive and offensive roles, the Duster and Quad have proven to be formidable weapons for support of maneuver and artillery units. Considerations and recommendations for utilization of the Duster, Quad and Searchlight are listed below:

a. DUSTER

Incl 3

26 April 1968 46

SUBJECT: EMPLOYMENT OF AW AND SEARCHLIGHTS IN VIETNAM

(1) The supersensitive point detonating fuze and flat trajectory of the 40mm projectile are key factors in positioning the weapon. Dense brush or foliage will cause detonation of the projectile. Tracer burn out of 40mm ammunition occurs between 3500 and 4500 meters which limits effective range. Consequently, fields of fire should be free of restriction by brush or trees to at least 3500 meters, where possible.

(2) Commanding terrain positions are recommended for the Duster, allowing utilization of full 6400M traversing capability and engagement of targets at maximum range. Alternate positions for the Duster provide flexibility to the defensive configuration. Preplanning concentration and programmed H & I fires on an irregular basis provides a deterrent factor for the perimeter.

(3) Employment in pairs is recommended for better coverage, mutual support, limited recovery capability, and section integrity for support of search and destroy operations, route and work party security and defensive support.

(4) The Duster is not recommended for convoy escort missions because long moves and low speeds have proven harmful to engines and transmissions. Due to the age of the chassis, it lacks the speed and durability of newer carriers which should be considered when operating with self-propelled artillery or armor units.

b. QUAD

(1) Employment of the 2½-ton Truck Mounted Quad is similar to Duster employment in many respects. However, the prime mover limits the mobility to hard surface areas and established road systems.

(2) The Quad is an area saturation weapon and is very effective in foliage and heavy brush areas.

(3) When emplaced in a defensive area, selection of alternate positions enables maneuverability within the position for purposes of massing fires and covering all routes of approach.

(4) Like the Duster, preplanned concentrations for the Quad add to the H & I program and the overall deterrent factor when in defensive positions.

c. SEARCHLIGHT

(1) The searchlight, when utilized in a defensive position, is recommended to be employed on high ground enabling coverage of the entire position area.

(2) The Searchlight, reciprocally laid with Automatic Weapons, offers a strong deterrent factor. Searchlight infrared detection, illumination and Automatic Weapons engagement, simultaneously, provide the defensive with a surprise capability for gaining the offensive.

47

AVCK-AF-S3

26 April 1968

SUBJECT: EMPLOYMENT OF AW AND SEARCHLIGHTS IN VIETNAM

(3) To achieve maximum effectiveness of Automatic Weapons and Searchlights, supported unit commanders are encouraged to include section or squad leaders in intelligence or operations briefings. The information received will provide Automatic Weapon and Searchlight personnel with the information necessary for range cards, preplanned fires, and locations of friendly forces and provide quicker reaction time in providing on-call missions. When included in operations planning of supported units, Automatic Weapons and Searchlight personnel will be able to advise supported commanders on matters such as employment, ammunition requirements, supply needs and personnel changes. This will enable a closer working relationship and control procedures.

(4) To insure continuous and effective support, supported commanders should provide Class I, III, and V items for supporting Automatic Weapons and Searchlight personnel and to assist in maintenance within the supported unit's capabilities.

(5) It is recommended that supported commanders schedule H & I and Recon by Fire firing for Automatic Weapons. This practice will enhance crew performance and insure weapons are functioning properly. If possible, a free-fire zone should be established for Automatic Weapon training and test firing.

(6) It is imperative that Dusters, Quads and Searchlights be positioned within the defensive perimeters to preclude these elements being over run and lost to the defense, in the event of attack. This is especially important for ground mounted Quads. When ground mounted, the Quad has no mobility and it must be provided adequate support and protection by ground troops and covering fire by other crew served weapons. Ground mounted Quads should not be placed so near the perimeter that it is within hand grenade distance from the enemy.

III. MAINTENANCE

3. Because of the inherent maintenance problems of the Duster and Quad, time is required for performance of crew maintenance and maintenance services. These weapon systems, as all equipment, must be continually maintained in order to provide support to their maximum capabilities. Duster and Quad crews will perform required maintenance in the available time and during mission assignments. Maintenance services are scheduled quarterly and require 72 hours for performance for the Duster. Thirty hours are required for the Quad and 2½-ton Truck services.

(2) To expedite repair parts resupply for Automatic Weapons and Searchlights, supported units are encouraged to initiate requisition and work order actions through their direct support maintenance agencies. This action will eliminate excessive equipment down-time caused by transportation of required parts from the Battalion's Base Camp. In the near future, this problem will be alleviated because PLLs will be established at each battery with associated ASIs.

AVGK-AF-S3

26 April 1968 48

SUBJECT: EMPLOYMENT OF AW AND SEARCHLIGHTS IN VIETNAM

(3) Dusters, when employed in pairs (by sections), have a limited recovery capability. One Duster can tow another for distances as far as 10 kilometers. Greater distances cause undue engine wear of the towing Duster. Also, a wrecker is required to change and service engines and transmissions. This Battalion is authorized only one wrecker and is augmented by one VTR. In view of the dispersion of Dusters throughout the II Corps Tactical Zone, it is impossible for this Battalion to support all elements with VTR or wrecker support when required. It is, therefore, required that supported unit commanders assist Duster crews by providing wrecker support for maintenance services and repairs and vehicle recovery within their capabilities.

(4) In order to preclude excessive down time for Dusters and Quads due to minor repairs, maintenance services required for the weapons systems should be considered by supported commanders in regard to frequency of their mission assignments. Section and Squad Leaders will know the status of their equipment, when services are scheduled, and will be able to advise supported commanders of their maintenance requirements.

IV. SUMMARY

4. The information contained herein is intended to aid the commander in employment of Automatic Weapons and Searchlights supporting this operation. Close adherence to recommended mission assignments will greatly enhance the support rendered by those elements. The requests made in regard to maintenance support, which can be effected by the supported unit commander, will aid in maintaining continuous operation of the weapon systems and Searchlights. Staff Officers, Battery Commanders, and Platoon Leaders of this organization, will make frequent liaison visits with supported unit commanders to assist in employment aspects and effect coordination action for maintenance and support requirements.

s/Paul E. Schultz
t/PAUL E. SCHULTZ
LTC, Artillery
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION:
Special

2 Incl
as

49
M-42

AUTOMATIC WEAPONS DATA

1. Each firing battery is composed of two platoons, four sections per platoon, 2 M-42s per section. (total 16 M-42s)
2. Each M-42 is armed with 2 40mm guns and 1 M-60 Machine Gun.
3. Rate of fire: Maximum, 240 rnds/min; Sustained, 100 rnds/min.
4. Effective Range: 3500 Meters (limited by self-destruction ammunition)
5. Ammunition:
 - a. Type: 40mm, HE-T or HEI-T, SD, MK 11, W/fuse, PD, MK 27.
 - b. Basic load: 480 rounds on carriage (480 more may be towed)
6. Vehicle
 - a. Full-tracked, gasoline driven, air-cooled engine.
 - b. 140 gal. fuel gives operating range of 35 to 100 miles depending on terrain conditions.
 - c. Speed: Up to 45 mph on improved roads, 25 mph in cross-country operations.
7. Weight: 25 tons (airlift by C-124 or C-141)

M-55

1. The M-55 battery is composed of six sections, four squads per section, 1 M-55 per squad. (total 24 M-55s)
2. Each M-55 has four caliber .50 Machine Guns on the mount.
3. Rate of fire: Maximum 450-500 rnds/min; per .50 cal.
4. Effective range: Point targets, 1830 meters; area targets, 6750 meters.
5. Ammunition
 - a. Type: .50 Cal
 - b. Basic load: 10,000 rnds on the prime mover, 10,000 towed.
6. Prime mover: 2½-ton truck
7. Weight
 - a. Mount only: 3200 lbs.
 - b. Mount, basic load, crew: 8,000 lbs. (carried by 1 CH-47)
 - c. M-55 complete (truck, mount, basic load, crew w/equipment): 26,204 lbs. (carried internally by C-124, C-130, C-141)

AN/MSS-3

50

1. Each Searchlight battery consists of 3 platoons with 12 lights per platoon.
(total 36 Searchlights)
2. Effective range:
 - a. White light: 3-5000 meters.
 - b. Infrared: 2-3000 meters.
3. Vehicle: $\frac{1}{2}$ -ton truck w/ 180 Amp alternator.
4. Weight: 1.5 tons complete (carried by 1 CH-47)
5. Beam width:
 - a. Focus: 12 ϕ
 - b. Spread: 120 ϕ
6. Traverse limits: 6400 ϕ
7. Elevation limits: +540 ϕ ; -380 ϕ
8. Continuous operation: 2 hours; cool for 30 minutes (visible mode)

51

RECOMMENDED MISSION ASSIGNMENTS

1. Suitable AW missions:
 - a. Tactical missions
 - 1) Road security
 - 2) Perimeter defense
 - 3) Search and destroy (M-42 only. 2½ ton Prime Mover for M-55 limits mobility to hard surface areas and established road systems)
 - 4) Work party security
 - 5) Strong point security
 - 6) Convoy escort (M-55) should be utilized. Long moves at low speeds prove excessively harmful to M-42.
 - 7) Air transportable (M-55 only)
 - 8) M-42 waterborne operations on-board LCM
 - 9) Blocking and destruction missions
 - b. Fire missions
 - 1) Interdiction
 - 2) Counterfire--during AW or mortar attacks
 - 3) Recon by fire
 - 4) Confirmed target locations
 - 5) Indirect fire and unobserved fire
2. Considerations for choice between the M-42 and M-55.
 - a. The M-42 is preferred for:
 - 1) Point targets
 - 2) Close-in fires at heavier targets i.e., bunkers, building, etc.
 - 3) Indirect fires
 - b. The M-55 is preferred for:
 - 1) Firing near friendly positions in under brush or heavy foliage.

52

- 2) Saturation fires
- 3) Blocking fires
- 3. Unsuitable missions for AW
 - a. Cavalry operations, such as screening and reconnaissance missions
 - b. Cross country movement at low speeds or in jungle terrain
 - c. Convoy escort of heavy artillery batteries and extended road marches are not recommended for M-42, Dusters

CONFIDENTIAL

53

Chronological Sequence of Major Actions and Events for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1968. (Reference: Daily SITREPS, 4/60)

- 4 Feb 68 1450 hrs: Det Bn, 30th Arty Surgeon was fired upon at BR983253 (approx 15 rounds). At 1630 hours the 19th S & S BN (78981248) was fired on by small arms and Automatic Weapons from the VIC of BR983252. The 8th Transportation Group dispatched reaction force. In the resulting fire fight 18 US/FWMAF vehicles were pinned down on Highway 6B by the enemy small arms and Automatic Weapons fire from the same general area. Armed helicopters from Lane Army Airfield engaged the enemy position. BN CMDR dispatched M-42 and Quad 50 reaction force and extracted personnel pinned down by the enemy fire. After personnel were extracted and returned to Camp Townes, artillery fire was called in and adjusted from Camp Townes observation post. A/2/17 fired 41 rounds of 105mm HE. Assessment: Undetermined.
- 4 Feb 68 2040 hrs: Dusters D141 and D142 enroute to fire base approximately 10 KM west of Oasis were ambushed at ZB013319 by an unknown size force using small arms. The Duster fired 202 rounds. Results: 1 NVA KIA. Negative damage or casualties to US personnel.
- 5 Feb 68 1640 hrs: Quads E15, E17 and E18 while performing convoy escort for 124th Trans Bn were ambushed by an unknown VC force on Highway 19 in the Mang Giang Pass. The Quads expended 6200 rounds in support of the convoy. Negative assessment.
- 7 Feb 68 Duster B231 was ambushed VIC AR933479. Duster B231 fired and expended 50 rounds. Results: 3 enemy KIA. Negative damage or casualties.
- 8 Feb 68 Quad E19 and E22 located at LZ Betty was employed in a search and destroy mission in which several fortifications were destroyed resulting in 3 VC KIA.
- 17 Feb 68 0845 hrs: Duster D112 hit mine VIC ZA209343 enroute to check point 33 for daily strongpoint security mission. 2 WIA treated and returned to duty. 1245 hours VIC ZA152324 while being towed by M-88 VTR, Duster D112 hit a second mine causing extensive damage, resulting in combat loss.
- 22 Feb 68 Duster A111, A122 and Quad E19 while on search and destroy mission in support of 3/506 Infantry near Phan Thiet VIC AN828082 received credit for 17 enemy KIA.
- 25 Feb 68 2015 hrs: Duster C221 while performing bridge security observed unknown size VC force gathering in a church

INCLOSURE 5

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

VIC BR875957. Duster fired one confirmed mission expending 296 rounds resulting in church being destroyed. Assessment undetermined. Duster C121 while performing perimeter defense at LZ English observed a suspected VC campfire. Duster fired one reconnaissance by fire mission expending 136 rounds VIC BS868028. Results 4 enemy KIA. 54

28 Feb 68 Dusters B111 and B112 fired five reconnaissance by fire missions at the Quad Area Sub-Area Command VIC of CR0422, CR0321, CR0321 and CR0321. In the VIC of CR033214 four Dusters were destroyed. Three were destroyed and one partially destroyed. Three lean-to type shelters were discovered and after 40mm shells cleared away the foliage. Area believed to be the Base Camp of the E210 VC BN. No enemy fire was returned during the operation.

3 Mar 68 1945 hrs: Duster B211, B212, B221, D141, B231 and B232 received 81mm mortar, 122mm, rocket and recoilless rifle attack at Dak To to VIC YB988167. Dusters fired counterfire mission expending 924 rounds resulting in 1 enemy KIA.

4 Mar 68 0030 hrs: DUSTER D221 located VIC of YA876456 Polei Djereng fired one mission expending 73 rounds at enemy mortar position. Mortars silenced at time. On 5 March Duster D221 received credit for destroying 82mm mortar position.

4 Mar 68 1035 hrs: Duster A221 in support of Special Forces and CIDG personnel on a search and destroy mission VIC CQ 938753 discovered 2 NVA hiding in bush. Enemy engaged with Duster's Machine Gun. Assessment 1 NVA KIA, one probable KIA, 1 NVA flag captured.

5 Mar 68 2100 hrs: Duster 221 received an undetermined amount of incoming rocket, mortar, and small arms fire VIC YA876456 southeast of Polei Djereng. Mortar and recoilless rifle rounds impacted 10 meters in front of Duster's position, wounding 4 EM. All EM were treated and returned to duty. Duster fired 1 counterfire mission expending 300 rounds. Assessment: Mortar fire silenced.

7 Mar 68 2100 hrs: Duster A111, A112 and A121 fired 8 H & I missions expending 96 rounds at suspected enemy location VIC AN960680 near LZ Betty. Assessment: 7 enemy KIA (by body count).

8 Mar 68 Quads E16, E23 and E26 fired one counterfire mission expending 10,000 rounds, quads were on convoy escort duty for the 8th Trans Group when convoy was ambushed on the Mang Giang Pass VIC BR3545. Quad E26 received 1 round in right door. Negative casualties.

49
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

- 55
- 12 Mar 68 1430 hrs: H103 fired one confirmed mission expending 586 rounds VIC GR070336 and GR086228. Assessment: 14 small structures destroyed, 7 large structures destroyed.
- 13 Mar 68 2200 hrs: Duster C211 on bridge security VIC LZ Lowboy VIC BR921207 observed 3 VC setting explosives on bridge. Duster crew fired M-79 and M-60 weapons. Assessment: 1 confirmed enemy KIA and 2 possible enemy WIA.
- 15 Mar 68 1330 hrs: Quads E16 and E26 were ambushed while on convoy escort with 8th Trans Bn on Highway 19 VIC BR1752. Quads fired 900 rounds silencing ambushers with unconfirmed enemy KIA, 1 US WIA (Btry E, 41st Arty)
- 19 Mar 68 0915 hrs: Quad E19 while on search and destroy mission fired small arms fire and Automatic Weapons fire VIC AN 911229. Mission was fired in support of 3rd Bn 506th Infantry. 1 US WIA (E19). Assessment: Undetermined.
- 20 Mar 68 1000 hrs: Duster D241 enroute to Kontum hit anti-tank mine VIC ZA232581. Sniper fire commenced and was silenced after Duster D241 fired 70 rounds in counterfire mission. Negative casualties.
- 23 Mar 68 0900 hrs: Duster D242 while on convoy escort mission going east on route 511 VIC ZA029929 near Kontum, hit land mine. 4 US WIA including Cpt. Joseph W. Corder Jr. Battery D Commander. D242 combat loss.
- 1000 hrs: Duster A232 while moving to position for escort mission in support of 6th Bn 32nd Arty hit land mine VIC of BQ945775. 2 US WIA. A232 (4/4/60) combat loss.
- 31 Mar 68 1315 hrs: Quad E11 on search and destroy mission in support of 1st Bn 50th Infantry contacted unknown size enemy force VIC of BR997732. Quad E11 engaged the enemy. Assessment: Undetermined. 2 US WIA (E11 personnel) evac to 85th EVAC Hospital.
- 1650 hrs: Personnel of C/4/60 enroute to LZ English were ambushed vic BR886885. Several vehicles from the 173rd ABN were all caught in the ambush. Received Automatic Weapons fire from both sides of the road. Estimated enemy size 2 platoons. Dusters B121, C221 and C222 were called in for support. Duster fired 762 rounds breaking ambush. Negative casualties. Assessment undetermined as a sweep of the area could not be made.
- 1 Apr 68 0730 hrs: Quad E15 mount was air lifted to VIC YA939912

50

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

mission FSB perimeter defense.

56

- 1 Apr 68 1630 hrs: Ammo dump VIC YA939912 received incoming mortar rounds. Fire spread to Quad E15 causing minor damages. Majority of all Quad E15 equipment destroyed. Quad crew personal clothing and equipment destroyed. Negative casualties. Quad E15 operational.
- 1700 hrs to 2200 hrs: Quad E15 received undetermined number of incoming mortar rounds and sniper fire VIC YA939912. Quad E15 returned counterfire mission expending 2000 rounds. Negative damage to equipment or casualties.
- 2 Apr 68 1708 hrs: APC with Quad E11 mounted returning in column from infantry operation in support of 1st Bn, 50th Infantry hit mine VIC of BR999783. PFC Thomas S. Woodland, PFC Pablo G. Sanchez, E/41, KIA. APC and Quad combat loss.
- 4 Apr 68 1345 hrs: Quad E15 mount received incoming mortar rounds VIC of YA171198. 1 US WIA (E/41).
- 8 Apr 68 0800 hr: Dusters B121, B122, B141 and B142, Quads E14, E27 and E28 departed Camp Townes for extensive operation in support of 6th Bn, 84th Arty VIC BR8953.
- 9 Apr 68 Dusters B121, B122, B141 and B142 received incoming mortar rounds VIC BR892632. Dusters fired counterfire missions expending 482 rounds in VIC of mortar flashes. Assessment: Mortar fire silenced. 1 US WIA (E/41).
- 0600 hrs: Work party uncovered 3 bodies VIC BR354452 killed by .50 Caliber Machine Guns Quad E16, E23 and E26 were credited with 3 enemy KIAs by body count. Mission fired 0/4 5APR.
- 10 Apr 68 0130 hrs: Searchlight S21 observed movement on perimeter VIC ZA183911 Searchlight personnel fired 10 M-79 rounds. Assessment: 3 enemy KIA by body count.
- 0830 hrs: E25 and E26 fired counterfire in support of an EOD Team working along Highway 19 in VIC of BR300452 expending 4800 rounds respectively. Assessment: Quad E25 and E26 credited with 4 enemy KIA by body count.
- 1230 hrs: Estimated regimental size force NV4 attacked position VIC of BR300452 with recoilless rifles, AK 47s and B-40 rockets. Attack repulsed by Infantry, artillery and airstrikes. Quads E25 and E26 fired 15,000 rounds in counterfire missions. Assessment: Quads E25 and E26 were credited with 4 enemy KIA by body count.

51

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

- 57 15 Apr 68 1400 hrs: Quad E15 mount located just outside of their perimeter VIC of YA899934 were called upon to provide litter bearers for US Infantry unit in fire fight with undetermined size NVA force. PFC James E. Nicolaisen (A/4) became separated from his unit. Search of area was conducted with negative results.
- 17 Apr 68 1700 hrs: PFC Nicolaisen was found KIA as a result of another sweep of the area by infantry unit.
- 17 Apr 68 2100 hrs: Duster A241 while on perimeter defense observed undetermined size force of VC VIC of CQ118372. Duster A241 expended 72 rounds. Assessment 3 enemy KIA by body count.
- 19 Apr 68 2100 hrs: Dusters C141 and C142 in support of regular forces ambush VIC of BR776911 fired 5 confirmed missions expending 119 and 96 rounds respectively. Assessment: 8 enemy KIA by body count.
- 20 Apr 68 0800 hrs: Dusters B121, B122, and B142, Quads E14, E27, and E28, Searchlights S41, S42, S48, S52 and S66 in support of 6th Bn, 84th Arty; Btry B 7th Bn, 15th Arty, Btry C, 2nd Bn, 17th Arty in support of 1st Inf Regiment (ROK) and 26th Inf Regiment (ROK) began mission assignment for Operation Mang Ho 11.
- 22 Apr 68 1655 hrs: Quad E19 returning from work party security in support of 27th Engineers hit a 105mm pressure detonated road mine VIC of AN87176 approximately 5KM from Phan Thiet. Vehicle damaged. 3 US WIA (A/4/60) 2 EM treated in field and returned to duty, 1 EM will be evac to 36th Evac Hospital.
- 2015 hrs: Searchlight S48 illuminated 2 VC VIC of CRO90375 resulting in capture of 1 VC by ROK Forces.
- 23 Apr 68. 0710 hrs: Quad E13 enroute to LZ Pony hit land mine VIC of BR799826. Negative casualties. Vehicle damaged.
- 27 Apr 68 0005 hrs: Duster B111 fired 1 counterfire mission against incoming sniper fire expending 30 rounds VIC BR0323. Negative US casualties. Assessment: Sniper fire silenced.
- 29 Apr 68 1030 hrs Duster D121 and D132 fired one mission each, expending a total of 361 rounds, on a known enemy small arms position VIC ZA059312. The small arms were firing on a helicopter flying overhead. Assessment: Small arms fire silenced.

CONFIDENTIAL

51
QUAD CONVOY ESCORT DUTY HWY QL 19

The following reports of action were compiled from the 4th Battalion (AW) (SP), 60th Artillery SITREPS and 8th Transportation Group letters. Subject: Synopsis of Ambush.

13 Feb 68. A convoy consisting of 28 cargo vehicles, 1 maintenance truck, 2 gun jeeps (M-60 MG), 3 gun trucks (4 M-60 MG/TRK) and Quads E15, E17 and E18 departed An Khe at 1325 hours. At a point 200 meters east of the base of Mang Giang Pass (See map point 1), the lead vehicles of the convoy were taken under fire by enemy mortars and small arms. Convoy personnel immediately returned fire in the direction of the suspected enemy positions. The convoy commander directed E17 to engage the enemy and lay down screening fire in the direction of the suspected enemy mortar position while the convoy moved through the area. Tactical Security Forces (173rd ABN) arrived within 10 minutes of the initial contact. Air strikes were conducted. A sweep of the suspected enemy positions was conducted after air strikes.

ASSESSMENT: Enemy casualties unknown. No US casualties or equipment damage. Enemy had fired 7 mortar rounds.

4 Mar 68. A convoy consisting of 104 cargo vehicles, 4 gun jeeps (M-60 MG), 8 gun trucks (4 M-60 MG/TRK) and Quads E16, E23 and E26 departed An Khe at 0830 hours. At 0900 hours the convoy was halted at CP 89 by tactical security because of enemy action in Mang Giang Pass. At 1130 hours the convoy continued with one Tank (1/69) and 2 APCs (173rd ABN) accompanying for additional security. At 1145 hours (VIC BR333461) the convoy came under heavy small arms, Automatic Weapons and mortar fire (See map point 2). The Convoy Security Force including E16, E23 and E26 immediately returned fire on the enemy positions which were well entrenched in the tree line on the north side of the road. Sporadic fire was also received from the south side of the road. A reaction force of 1 Tank, 4 APCs and 4 Gun Ships arrived within five minutes after the initial contact. The enemy force was estimated at 50 personnel.

ASSESSMENT: Enemy casualties unknown, 8 US WIA, including 2 Quad cannoneers; 5 vehicles and two trailers damaged. Quads expended 25,000 rounds.

8 Mar 68. A convoy consisting of 79 cargo vehicles, 4 gun jeeps (M60 MG), 5 gun trucks (4 M-60 MG/TRK) and Quads E16, E23 and E26 departed An Khe at 0800 hours. At 0830 hours VIC BR335445 (See map point 1), the third gun truck in the first serial was hit by a Claymore mine. At the same time the convoy came under heavy small arms and Automatic Weapons fire. The Convoy Security Force including E16, E23 and E26. A company from the 173rd, operating in the immediate area was driven back after 15 minutes.

ASSESSMENT: 1 US KIA, 2 US WIA, 1 Vehicle damaged; enemy casualties not known.

INCLOSURE 6

53
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

The convoy proceeded and at 0915 hours at a point 2 Kilometers west of CP 102 (See map point 2), a fuel truck in the first serial hit a mine. The vehicle was taken under enemy fire by small arms, Automatic Weapons and B40 rockets, which ignited the fuel. The remainder of the column came under enemy fire. The Convoy Security Force including Quads E16, E23 and E24 laid down a base of fire directed at the enemy positions while the convoy maneuvered past the burning vehicle. Tactical Security Forces arrived within 5 minutes and engaged the enemy. 60

ASSESSMENT: 1 US KIA, 1 vehicle damaged, 1 vehicle destroyed. The Quads expended a total of 10,000 rounds in both ambushes. The Quads received no casualties or damage.

15 Mar 68. At 1030 hours a convoy supported by Quads E16 and E26 came under small arms and Automatic Weapons fire from a bunker approximately 400 meters of the highway (See map point 3). The Quads fired 900 rounds into the bunker silencing the enemy fire.

ASSESSMENT: Negative US casualties or equipment damaged; 3 enemy KIA by Quads.

At 1330 the Quads were returned to An Khe providing security for a convoy when they came under fire from small arms and Automatic Weapons fire (See map point 3). The Quads directed fire into the enemy positions expending 900 rounds.

ASSESSMENT: 2 US WIA both from Quads. Negative US equipment damage. 8 enemy KIA.

SNOPSIS: QUADS on convoy escort are utilized as a quick reaction force capable of engaging the enemy with devastating fire that saturates the enemy positions in the minimum amount of time. The Quads, irregularly placed in the column, precludes the enemy from predetermining their position and provides protection for the entire convoy. As illustrated by the above, the Quads are used to lay down screening fires while the column passes through the area. Also Quads check the enemy's offensive against the convoy until Security Forces, helicopter gun ships, or artillery arrives at the area of ambush.

54
CONFIDENTIAL

61
MANDATORY TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

THE FOLLOWING PROGRAM OF INSTRUCTION IS AN EXTRACT FROM REGULATION 350-1
4TH BATTALION (AW)(SF) 60TH ANTILERY. THE TRAINING IS CONDUCTED AT THE
SQUAD OR SECTION LEVEL BY MEMBERS OF THE BATTALION.

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>HOURS</u>	<u>FREQUENCY</u>
a. ARMED FORCES CENSORSHIP	1	*ANNUALLY
b. CBR REFERENCE	1	MONTHLY
c. CHARACTER GUIDANCE	1	MONTHLY
d. CLANDESTINE SURVEILLANCE AND LISTING DEVICES	1	*ANNUALLY
e. CODE OF CONDUCT	1	ANNUALLY
f. COMMAND INFORMATION	1	WEEKLY
g. CIVIL AFFAIRS	1	ANNUALLY
h. DEFENSE AGAINST SUBVERSION AND ESPIONAGE	1	*ANNUALLY
i. PHYSICAL FITNESS PROGRAM	4	ANNUALLY
j. QUALIFICATION IN ARMS	8	ANNUALLY
k. SAFEGUARDING DEFENSE INFO	1	*ANNUALLY
l. SURVIVAL, ESCAPE AND EVASION	1	ANNUALLY

TOTAL

22 HOURS

* SUBJECTS MAY BE GIVEN WITH OTHER SECURITY OBLIGATIONS.

3. FOLLOWING SUBJECTS ARE CONSIDERED OF SUFFICIENT IMPORTANCE TO BE
INTEGRATED INTO ALL PHASES OF TRAINING WHERE APPROPRIATE:

- a. COMINTERNURGENCY AND COUNTERGUERRILLA TRAINING.
- b. FIRST AID AND EMERGENCY CARE
- c. FIELD SANITATION
- d. MATERIAL READINESS

Inclosure 9

55

- 62
- e. PREVENTION OF HEAT INJURY
 - f. SUPPLY LOGGING
 - g. SEVERE WEATHER
 - h. VIETNAM AND RELATIONS WITH THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE
 - i. MAP READING
 - j. FIELD ARTILLERY OBSERVATION
 - h. COMMUNICATIONS PROCEDURES

63
REPLACEMENT TRAINING CYCLE

a. REPLACEMENT TRAINING CYCLE:

(1) THE FIRST DAY WILL BE UTILIZED FOR PERSONNEL IN-PROCESSING DRAWING OF INDIVIDUAL RECORDS AND M-50 FILES AND TWO HOUR CONSULTATION ON THE BATTALION HISTORY, COMBAT AND ACHIEVEMENTS.

(2) THE SECOND DAY WILL BE DEVOTED TO FIELD PROCESSING, FILING RECORDS FOR ZERO/ENLIGHTENMENT, AND INSTRUCTION ON M-16, M-60 MACHINE GUN, AND .50 CALIBER MACHINE GUN, TO INCLUDE DISASSEMBLY AND ASSEMBLY.

(3) THIRD AND FINAL DAY REPLACEMENT TRAINING SCHEDULES WILL CONSIST OF:

- (a) VETERANS CAREER, LOCAL PROCEDURES AND RULES (1 HR)
- (b) INDIVIDUAL RECORDS AND FIELD SANITATION (1 HR)
- (c) COMPLETED ORIENTATION (1 HR)
- (d) DISTRIBUTION SOP AND RULES OF ENGAGEMENT (1 HR)
- (e) PRACTICAL EXERCISE ON USE OF GUNNERS UDLANT, COMPUTING MIGHTY ELEVATION; MARKING FOR AZIMUTH; INDICATOR AND AIR DEFENSE DAY FILING.
- (f) M-16 CARE AND MAINTENANCE (2 HRS)

b. THE REPLACEMENT TRAINING PROGRAM HAS BEEN REVISED TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS WHICH WILL BE INCLUDED IN FUTURE REPLACEMENT TRAINING:

RADIO ORIENTATION	1 HR
INDIVIDUAL RECORDS	1 HR
MARKING AND EVASION	1 HR
PRISONERS OF WAR (CODE OF CONDUCT)	1 HR
ENEMY PRISONERS OF WAR	1 HR
M-16 TRAINING	2 ADDITIONAL HOURS

Inclosure 10

o. IN ADDITION TO SCHEDULED REPLACEMENT TRAINING LISTED ABOVE, EACH BATTERY CONDUCTS ON-THE-JOB TRAINING OF THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

- (1) SKILLS TESTS REQUIRED BY INDIVIDUAL UNIT TACTICAL SIMULATION.
- (2) INDIVIDUAL AND UNIT PROTECTION, FIELD PARTICIPATIONS, COVER AND CONCEALMENT.
- (3) GROUND DRILL. INDIRECT, DIRECT AIR DEFENSE.
- (4) PREPARATION AND USE OF RANGE CARDS.
- (5) USARV, INFORCEV, AND 4TH BATTALION (AW)(SP) 60TH ARTILLERY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.
- (6) UNIT MISSIONS AND OBJECTIVES

ENCLOSURE 11

65

PLL CLERK TRAINING PROGRAM

THE FOLLOWING FORMAL AND ON-THE-JOB TRAINING WAS CONDUCTED BY THE BATTALION S4 FOR PURPOSES OF QUALIFYING BATTERY PERSONNEL TO PERFORM THE DUTIES OF PLL CLERK.

1. FORMAL TRAINING (2 DAYS)

- (a) INTRODUCTION TO PUBLICATIONS (2 HRS)
- (b) INTRODUCTION TO THE RECORD OF DEMAND AND TITLE INSERT CARDS (2 HRS)
- (c) PRACTICAL EXERCISE ON THE PREPARATION OF A PLL (4 HRS)
- (d) INTRODUCTION TO THE RED BALL EXPRESS AND ISSUE PRIORITY SYSTEM (2 HRS)
- (e) PRACTICAL EXERCISE INVOLVING ALL PHASES OF A PLL (INCLUDING THE DEMAND CARDS, TITLE INSERTS, AND SUBMITTING REQUISITIONS).

2. OJT (4 DAYS)

- (a) EACH PLL CLERK PREPARED HIS RESPECTIVE BATTERY'S RECORD OF DEMAND AND TITLE INSERT CARDS.
- (b) THE PLL CLERKS PREPARED RED BALL EXPRESS REQUISITIONS FOR BATTALION CONSOLIDATED PLL.
- (c) THE PLL CLERKS PROCESSED STATUS CARDS, AND MADE THE NECESSARY FOLLOW UP FOR THE BN CONSOLIDATED PLL.

59

CONFIDENTIAL

67
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 4TH BATTALION, 60TH ARTILLERY
APO 96238

AVGK-AF-S4

19 March 1968

SUBJECT: Location of Prescribed Load Stock

CO, 4th Bn, 60th Arty
APO San Francisco 96238

1. REFERENCES:

a. Message, CG USARV, AVHGD-MF 61514, DTG 131109Z Sep 67, SUBJECT: Location of Prescribed Load Stock.

b. Message, CG IFFORCEV, Artillery, AVFA-AT-E, 10-0280, DTG 20355Z Oct 67, SUBJECT: Location of PLL and Stock

c. Message, CG IFFORCEV, Arty, AVFA-AT-E, 02-0447, DTG 270530Z Feb 68, SUBJECT Prescribed Load List.

d. AR-735-35 Paragraph 6-3

2. In compliance with reference 1C, the following factors were considered pertaining to the location of prescribed load stock:

a. Age of equipment utilized

b. Stock of spare parts available for equipment

c. Past and present deadline rate.

d. Transportation and communication with subordinate units.

e. Wide dispersion of fire units and subordinate unit headquarters from battalion headquarters.

f. Status of PLL line items with stock located at battalion level and stock located at battery level.

g. Requirement for PLL experienced personnel with stock located at battalion level and stock located at battery level.

3. The following advantages and disadvantages were noted with the PLL remaining consolidated at battalion level:

a. ADVANTAGES:

(1) Total number of lines authorized on PLL (890) based on consolidated density and consolidated demands.

60
Inclosure 13

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

(2) ASL at 5th Maintenance Battalion is within 20 minutes driving time from PLL location. 68

(3) Three PLL clerks and one supervisor can maintain consolidated PLL.

(4) PLL functions can be closely supervised at battalion level.

(5) The PLL clerks working in the consolidated PLL are trained and knowledgeable.

b. DISADVANTAGES:

(1) Long distances between consolidated PLL location and firing batteries with the attendant time lapse in transporting repair parts.

(2) There is only one ASL supporting the battalion.

(3) Demand data in some cases is incorrect due to units obtaining repair parts from other sources.

4. The following advantages and disadvantages with the PLL being at battery level is listed below:

a. ADVANTAGES:

(1) The repair parts would be stocked at the location where maintenance is actually performed (reference 1d).

(2) The time lapse in transporting repair parts would be reduced.

(3) The ASL's which would support the unit PLL's would be relatively close to the PLL location.

(4) Personnel in units would take more interest in the procurement of repair parts.

(5) The total number of mission essential items authorized for stockage would increase for approximately 160 lines.

b. DISADVANTAGES:

(1) The requirement for trained PLL clerks would increase from three to a minimum of six (a minimum of one clerk per PLL for Hq Btry, A Btry, B Btry, C Btry, D Btry, and E Btry 29th Arty). Repair parts for E Btry, 41st Arty, would be on the PLL's of the units to which the machine gun sections are attached.

(2) An estimated 211 line items would be dropped from the unit PLL due to lower density of equipment and the reduced number of demands.

61
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

69 5. CONCLUSIONS:

a. The PLL located at battery level would be more responsive to the needs of the unit.

b. The availability of repair parts will not improve.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. That a PLL be established at each unit with the exception of E Dtry, 41st Arty.

b. That a training program under the direction of Lt. Mandery be established at this location.

c. That each unit select one individual to be trained as a repair parts specialist.

d. That this headquarters request permission to maintain a consolidated PLL at this location in addition to the unit PLL's.

e. That the PLL for HHB 4/60 be maintained by one of the repair part specialists presently assigned.

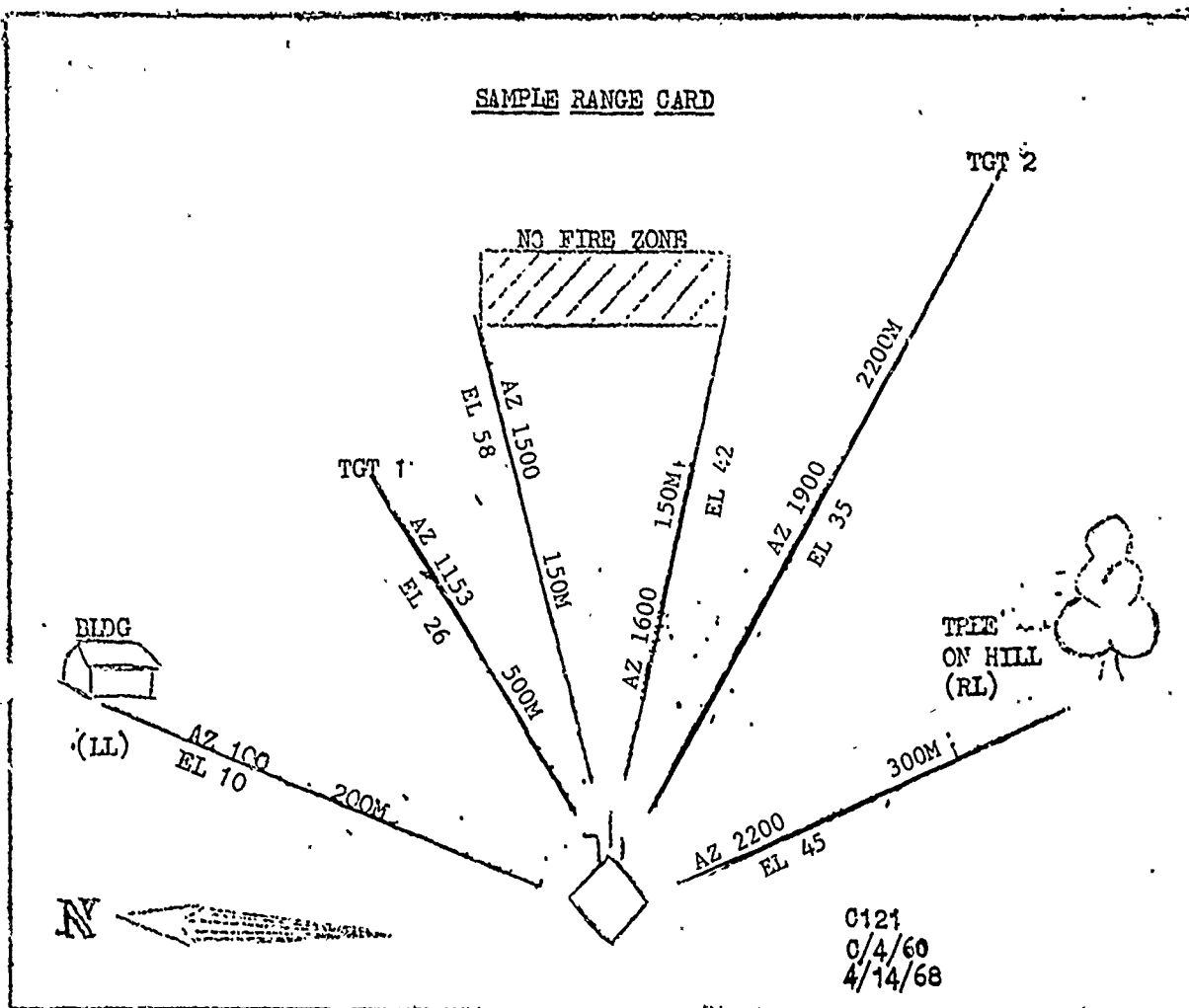
Antonio G. Gonzales

ANTONIO G. GONZALES

CPT, Artillery

S4

62
CONFIDENTIAL

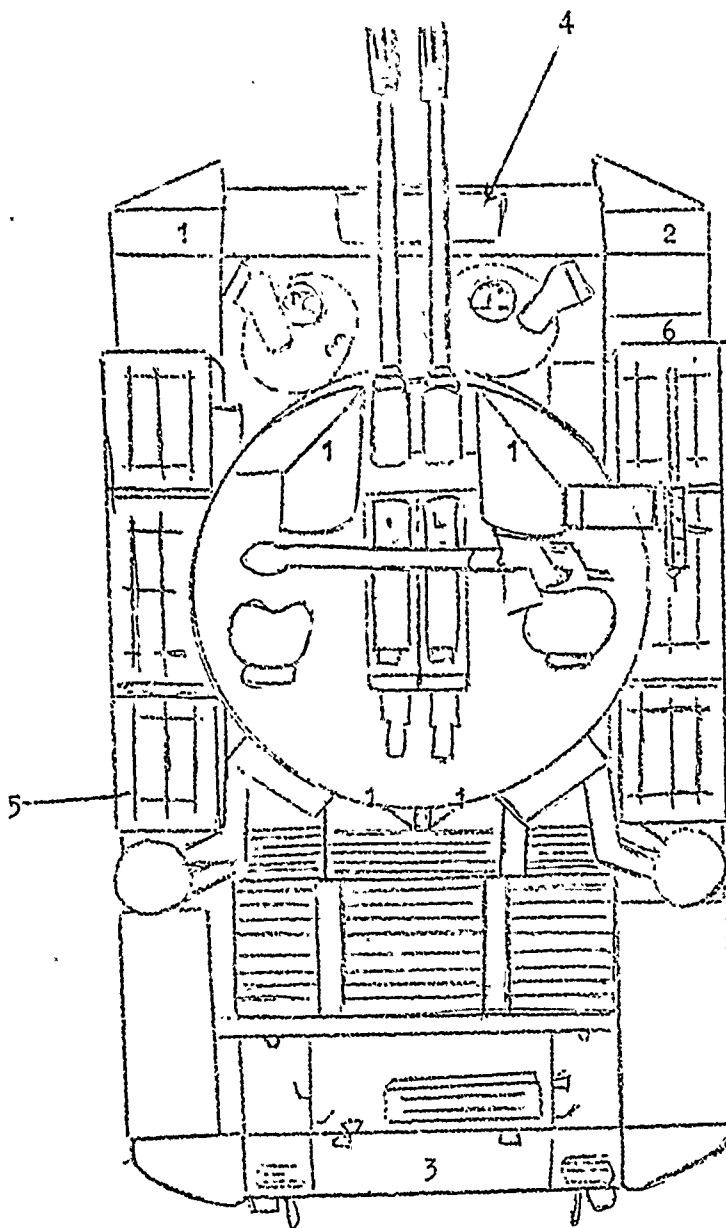


ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON RANGE CARDS

1. Targets
2. Ranges
3. Direction/Elevation (AZ/EL)
4. Left Limit (LL)
5. Right Limit (RL)
6. Your Location
7. North Arrow
8. No Fire Zones or Outpost location of Patrols
9. Fire Unit Designation
10. Date Prepared

READY TO ROLL LOADING PLAN

73



1. PACK W/BED ROLL
2. 200 SAND BAGS
3. 15 8' ENGINEER STAKES
4. 3 CASES C-RATIONS IN DRIVERS COMPARTMENT
5. 5 GAL 30W OIL
6. 5 GAL WATER

NOTE: 1. PACK WILL HAVE ONE COMPLETE CHANGE OF UNIFORM MINUS BOOTS PLUS MESS KIT AND TOILET ARTICLES.
 2. BED ROLL WILL CONSIST OF BLANKET & MOSQUITO NET ROLLED INSIDE OF PONCHO & ATTACHED TO BOTTOM OF PACK.

Incolours 16

64

DOCUMENT CONTROL DATA - R & D

(Security classification of title, body of abstract and indexing annotation must be entered when the overall report is classified)

1. ORIGINATING ACTIVITY (Corporate author)		2a. REPORT SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	
OACSFOR, DA, Washington, D.C. 20310		Confidential	
3. REPORT TITLE		2b. GROUP	
Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Bg, 4th Battalion, 60th Artillery (U)		4	
4. DESCRIPTIVE NOTES (Type of report and inclusive dates)			
Experiences of unit engaged in counterinsurgency operations, 1 Feb - 30 Apr 68			
5. AUTHOR(S) (First name, middle initial, last name)			
CO. 4th Battalion, 60th Artillery			
8. REPORT DATE		7a. TOTAL NO. OF PAGES	7b. NO. OF REFS
30 April 1968		65	
9a. CONTRACT OR GRANT NO.		9a. ORIGINATOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)	
b. PROJECT NO.		682263	
c. N/A		9b. OTHER REPORT NO(S) (Any other numbers that may be assigned this report)	
d.			
10. DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT			
11. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES		12. SPONSORING MILITARY ACTIVITY	
N/A		OACSFOR, DA, Washington, D.C. 20310	
13. ABSTRACT			

75

The following items are recommended for inclusion in the Lessons Learned Index:

ITEM 1

* SUBJECT TITLE _____
** FOR OT RD # _____
***PAGE # _____

ITEM 2

SUBJECT TITLE _____
FOR OT RD # _____
PAGE # _____

ITEM 3

SUBJECT TITLE _____
FOR OT RD # _____
PAGE # _____

ITEM 4

SUBJECT TITLE _____
FOR OT RD # _____
PAGE # _____

ITEM 5

SUBJECT TITLE _____
FOR OT RD # _____
PAGE # _____

* Subject Title: A short (one sentence or phrase) description of the item of interest.

** FOR OT RD # : Appears in the Reply Reference line of the Letter of Transmittal. This number: must be accurately stated.

***Page # : That page on which the item of interest is located.

76

- FOLD -

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OAGSFOR
Washington, D.C. 20310

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

STAPLE

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development
ATTN: Operational Reports Branch
Headquarters, Department of the Army
Washington, D.C. 20310

STAPLE

DA Label 12, 1 Apr 69 PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS LABEL ARE OBSOLETE.

16-78443-1

- FOLD -